

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

20 years on
The condition of
America's black
population two decades
after Martin Luther King
said: "I have a dream..."

Two weeks off
Friday page reports on
what children really
think of the holidays
their parents choose.

Winning ways
The image that means
President Reagan will
win a second term in
1984.

Losing touch
Are Canada's Liberals
preparing to dump Prime
Minister Trudeau?

Home thoughts...
How the Leicester
Building Society
discovered marketing
with a capital "M".

...from abroad
The New Zealand
tourists face England in
the fourth Test: the
European Swimming
Championships in Rome.

Kidnappers kill leading protester

The owner of the Argentine
magazine *Quidrum*, Señor Guillermo Patricio Kelly, a leading
human rights protester, was
kidnapped here yesterday and
later found dead, unofficial
sources said. An underground
group, "Free Argentina"
claimed responsibility.

Way clear for nuclear sell-off

The way is clear for the
privatization of British Nuclear
Fuels, according to Mr Con
Alday, chairman of the state-
owned nuclear waste reprocessing
and fuel enrichment company, which yesterday
announced a £20m profit
increase to £54.6m.

Coal warning

Sir Norman Siddall has warned
Mr Ian MacGregor, his suc-
cessor as coal board chairman,
not to risk conflict with the
miners by accelerating the
industry's rundown. Page 2

Turks' poll limit

Only three parties can contest
the Turkish election in
November, after 14 others were
excluded by the military regime
of President Evren. Page 6

Mayfair sale

ETR, the engineering conglom-
erate which took over the
Thomas Tilling group two
months ago, is selling Tilling's
Mayfair headquarters, Crewe
House. It is said to want £50m
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Polish release

Mr Wladyslaw Hardek, an
underground leader of Solidarity
who surrendered to the
Polish police, was released after
being questioned. Page 8

Aquino inquiry

President Marcos of the Philip-
pines has announced that a
special commission will investi-
gate the assassination of
Benigno Aquino, the opposition
leader shot dead. Page 5

Scientific talks

The meetings of the British
Association for the Advance-
ment of Science are reported on
page 4.

Essex prosper

Centuries by Gooch and Mc-
Ewan put Essex in a commanding
position against Worcester-
shire in the county champion-
ship yesterday. Report, page 18

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Letters: On the Soviet chal-
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and Mr Brian Thomas, youth
training, from Mr Paul Lewis;
Dartmoor spraying by Lady
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tional cars

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more public money; Russia's
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Profile of Sir Bernard Lovell;

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The latest children's books from
picture books to novels for
young people, and from
humour to computer books,
reviewed by Brian Alderson,
our children's books editor, and
his team of reviewers

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Mr P R C Elliott

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Rush for A-plates brings record August car sales

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

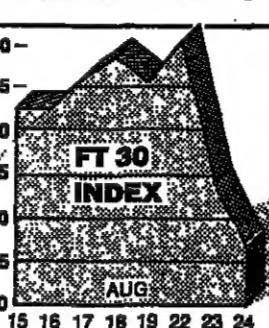
The fiercest price war ever experienced in the British car market had led to sales in the first two-thirds of this month reaching a record 304,000 - well in excess of the total for the whole of August last year.

Sales for the month, boosted by the introduction of the "A" prefix registration plate and an estimated £50m in dealer incentives, are on target to break through the 350,000 mark, much higher than the most optimistic manufacturers were predicting a few months ago.

British car workers - and the Government - can also take heart from a significant drop in imports in the first 20 days of August and a startling 11 per cent fall in the market share captured by cars produced elsewhere in the European Community compared to the same period last year.

The number of cars in the 20-day figure originating from within the EEC was 119,814, giving a share of 39.42 per cent against 50.41 per cent a year ago. This includes cars from the European factories of Ford and General Motors.

Ford took 30.1 per cent of the 20-day market followed by BL



Lowest exports this year put Britain in the red

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

A sharp drop in exports to the lowest level since January pushed Britain's balance of payments unexpectedly into the red last month.

The fall in exports is bound to alarm the Government. With the consumer boom already showing signs of levelling off, ministers have been pinning their hopes on export-led growth to keep the economy moving ahead.

Officials said yesterday that it was too soon to judge whether the trend in exports was downwards this year. But the Department of Trade and Industry conceded that the volume of exports in the last three months was 3 per cent lower than the preceding three months.

Combined with a relatively modest rise in imports last month, the fall in exports left Britain's visible trade in deficit by £350m last month, compared with a revised surplus of £162m the previous month.

Including the estimated surplus of £250m on invisible trade, such as shipping and banking, the current account showed a deficit of £100m last month. That was about £250m worse than market expectations

and marks a £512m turnaround from the revised June surplus.

The Government's Budget forecast of a £1,500m balance of payments surplus this year is beginning to look increasingly remote, although the Treasury said that the £475m surplus so far this year was only slightly lower than that implied by the Budget prediction.

The poor trade figures added to the pound's weakness on the foreign exchange markets yesterday. Sterling lost 1 cent against the dollar to \$1.5190 and eased against continental currencies. Its trade-weighted value fell by 0.1 to 83.6.

On the stock market, shares fell again because of worries about public spending problems and the gloomy forecast for the economy from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

Social Research. The index of the top shares fell 7.4 to 716.5 for a two-day fall of 23.8.

The poor July trade figures were affected by a lower surplus on oil trade and erratic items such as precious stones and aircraft.

Imports of £15,300m in the latest three months were 1.5 per cent higher in volume than the three months before, but the Department of Trade and Industry said the underlying level was stable after the sharp rise early in the year.

However, the trend in exports is more worrying, the fall of 7.5 per cent to £4,730m last month was broadly-based, reflecting lower exports of semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals' and lower oil and capital goods deliveries.

One bit of bright news for the Government was a prediction from Royal Bank of Scotland that it was heading for an unexpected £1,000m, windfall from the North Sea.

Royal Bank said this year's Budget forecast of £5,000m in North Sea oil revenues was well short of the mark and the Government could now expect at least £9,000m.

Market Report, page 14
City Editor, page 15

Aviemore Centre for sale by Fraser

By Philip Robinson

The Aviemore Centre, Scotland's best known skiing resort, is for sale. The asking price is thought to be more than £3m. The owner, the stores group, House of Fraser, which also owns Harrods, said last night, that it was for sale as part of a major group review of assets.

Aviemore, the company said, was not profitable enough. A Fraser spokesman added: "It has suffered the same fate as many other leisure places. But there is no question of our closing the centre. We have received some interested inquiries."

At the same time, Professor Roland Smith has rejected a 60 per cent pay rise and the job as full time chairman of the House of Fraser. But, it was announced last night, he will remain chairman on a part-time basis at £50,000 a year.

The two-year contract he has rejected, would have included £80,000 a year pay, a pension scheme, option rights, a car, a chauffeur and a house in London. It was fiercely opposed by Lord Lichfield, Fraser's biggest shareholder, which has two representatives on the Fraser

board. The two sides have been locked in battle over whether to float off Harrods as a separate company.

Aviemore was opened in 1966 at a cost of £2.7m and was the idea of the late Lord Fraser of Allander, founder of the stores group and father of the Glasgow businessman Sir Hugh Fraser, who was once chairman of his father's empire.

But Mr Ian Henderson, a spokesman for the centre said Aviemore was enjoying a boom year. "We have had a super summer following the best winter season for three years and the centre is bursting at the seams," he said.

Mr Paul Spicer, a London director, said: "The sale comes as a complete surprise to me. They seem to be selling everything, it's appalling."

Professor Smith was ap-
pointed as Fraser chairman in an
attempt to stave off a takeover bid from Lord Lichfield. Its

£220m offer two years ago was
vetoed by the Monopolies Commission, after which Lord Lichfield promised the Government it would not increase its influence over the company.

The date the dinosaur died leads to sharp words

From Pearce Wright, British Association, Brighton

Almost every theory about the cause of the extinction of the dinosaur took a tumble yesterday when two of Britain's acknowledged authorities joined forces to rebut the 40 or so different hypotheses that claim to account for their disappearance.

In a joint attack, Dr Alan Charig, the dinosaur curator of the Natural History Museum in London, and Dr Beverley Halstead, of the Departments of Geology and Zoology at Reading University, criticized "pseudo-experts" who looked for immortality by trying to provide a simplistic explanation of what happened to the dinosaurs.

Advocates of the various propositions who came under the lash of Dr Charig and Dr Halstead were not journalists

or laymen speculating on a subject in which they were out of their depth, but were physicists, climatologists, chemists and other scientists who, in Dr Halstead's view, "seem to believe that only their discipline of science can provide the answer".

Dr Charig says the issue turns on whether or not the extinction was sudden, or an event which happened within 10,000 years. Their rejection of each theory had a rigorous analytical basis. For example, the idea of the asteroid impact, which created a dust veil in the atmosphere around the entire Earth, is based on the existence of an unusual level of iridium (rare in normal samples of the

Earth, but more common in meteorites) and of osmium in samples of clay which come from geological strata that date at about 65 million years ago.

Dr Charig discounts the argument about iridium on the grounds that it is not the only geological strata with anomalies in iridium content. One of Dr Charig's upper cuts came in the form of the conclusions of a research study by one of his workers who went to inspect a site in Transylvania. It was the place where, at the end of the last century an eccentric Hungarian, Baron Noszka, an energetic palaeontologist, had uncovered some of the most important dinosaur finds in Europe.

Dr Charig's colleagues brought a new vertebrate to the Natural History Museum laboratory where it was found to have attached some fossils of molluscs belonging to a period later than the theoretical date of the demise of the dinosaur.

Dr Charig said the dinosaur did not become extinct suddenly but declined slowly. However, that still left the question - why?

The difference between Dr Charig and Dr Halstead and the "self-styled" experts under attack is, apparently, that they know that they do not know what happened to the dinosaur.

What is more, as Dr Halstead says, the continuing mystery keeps them in work.



Street riot: A Pakistani policeman firing tear gas grenades at stone-throwing demonstrators in the Chakwara district of Karachi.

Beith appeals for stronger Alliance

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, reacted to party infighting with a public assurance last night that party activists would "exercise the self-discipline which is needed to demonstrate that we are potentially the next Government".

But in his statement made on Channel 4's *Newsham*, he was bound to be taken as an appeal for peace at the party's Conference, which starts on September 19.

Liberal and Social Democratic Party leaders are increasingly concerned that Liberal activists will erode Alliance credibility, built up at the general election with continued battles over policy and tactics.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has let it be known that he would resign if the party assembly voted to take away his right of veto over the contents of the general election manifesto, and he has shown marked impatience with MPs and others who have criticized his management of the election campaign.

Mr Beith made his indirect appeal for unity when he said: "The voters are expecting a lot of us".

He said that Labour had excluded itself from the essential task of opposition to the Conservative Government by internal wrangling and total commitment to policies which would always be rejected by voters.

"It is ironic then that we are showing all the symptoms of catching the Labour disease of excessive internal feuding."

An analysis by the Socialist Weekly concludes: "The deputy leadership contest in October could be as close as in 1981, when Denis Healey beat Tony Benn by less than 1 per cent".

But whereas a recent survey by The Sunday Times suggested Mr Meacher could beat Mr Hattersley by 11.6 per cent, the

Terror in the streets of Pakistan

From Michael Hamlyn
Karachi

With tears running

Sculpture blaze man dies

The man injured in the fire which destroyed the controversial tyres sculpture of Polaris died yesterday in the burns unit of Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton.

Mr James Gore-Graham, aged 37, suffered 90 per cent burns in the fire outside the Festival Hall in London on Sunday.

Mr Gore-Graham, a furniture designer, of Coler Gardens, west Kensington, had been on the critical list since the fire. Police wanted to interview him, but could not do so because of the seriousness of his injuries.

The 170 ft submarine, made of 6,000 used tyres by Mr David Mach, was badly damaged. It has been decided not to restore it.

Labour will 'lose city £1.6m'

Labour-controlled Liverpool City Council was accused yesterday by Liberal members of planning to cut more than £400,000 from social services to build more houses – even though 1,000 council properties are empty.

Liberal say that the Economic Development Committee has agreed to abandon plans to build a family care centre, a nursery and a adult training workshop for the mentally handicapped, which could lose the city £1.6m in government grant.

£6.7m target for left-wing paper

Trade union leaders yesterday agreed to seek the approval of Britain's labour movement next month for their campaign to start up a new daily newspaper of the left. They want to establish a high level committee to raise £6.7m for a successor to the defunct *Daily Herald*.

The committee would call on external financing as well as the labour movement's own reserves to start up a "quality tabloid" to offer an alternative to Fleet Street journals.

Police hunt for killers

More than fifty detectives are hunting a gang of muggers who killed one man and left another critically injured. The dead man was found in bushes in the Townhead district of Glasgow on Monday. He has not been identified.

Mr William Coulter, aged 44, from Barnaulock, Glasgow, was stable in the Southern General Hospital last night. Police believe both men were attacked within minutes and within yards of each other on Saturday.

Ford spare-part prices investigated

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Ford in Britain is to be investigated for alleged anti-competitive behaviour in its control over manufacture of spare body parts.

The company which recently launched legal action in a growing dispute over allegedly counterfeit and usually lower priced body panels and parts, was ordered to be investigated by Sir Gordon Borrie, director General of Fair Trading.

Outgoing NCB chief warns against conflict with miners over too-rapid rundown

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Sir Norman Siddall, the National Coal Board's outgoing chairman, has warned his successor, Mr Ian MacGregor, not to risk a conflict with the miners by running down the industry too rapidly.

In a valedictory interview with *The Times* last night, he urged a continuation of the board's "softly softly" approach, which has reduced the industry's manpower by 10,000 this year as the management works towards a shutdown of 25 million tonnes of uneconomic capacity.

"I would say that to return the industry to profitability within three years is a fairly massive task," he said in his last speech at the helm of Britain's biggest state industry.

Mr MacGregor, the British Steel Corporation chairman, has been appointed head of the coal industry until 1986 in a move popularly expected to herald widespread pit closures and radical reforms in the way the industry is run. He has had three informal sessions of talks with senior NCB people.

Sir Norman said last night: "I do not think he is the sort of man that would make a facile assumption that he can import his strategy from BSC to coal mining. The situation of the two industries is entirely different."

Telecom unions to increase action

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Telecommunication engineers will today increase industrial action aimed at preventing the link between the private Mercury system and the British Telecom network which is being encouraged by the Government.

Members of the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU), operating mainly in the City, have been instructed from 8 am today to "black" all repair and maintenance work on high speed data transmission facilities used by Barclays Bank, British Petroleum and Cable and Wireless, which are the principal shareholders in the £100m Mercury venture.

Last night union officials were reluctant to discuss the likelihood of the new action being in contravention of employment legislation covering secondary action.

POEU, which since June has had a left-led executive, is apparently prepared to continue the action until there is a challenge under law by any of the companies affected. The

pay bargaining with local negotiations related to higher output.

Sir Norman said: "In spite of the fact that the workforce has changed considerably, the great protection they have is the national basic wage." Its removal would cause a crisis – particularly if it was lumped together with other management demands.

A full frontal attack based on wages and pit closures could go horribly wrong," Sir Norman believed.

"One of the difficulties about having a strike in the industry is that they are very good at it," he admitted. "It would be about all the rest and Arthur Scargill would be able to bring out all his anti-Tribble political ideas and one thing and another."

The miners meet the NCB to hear their answer to a "substantial" claim on September 27 and the union fears Mr MacGregor will try to bring to the coal industry his successful strategy at British Steel of abolishing the annual national wage round in favour of local productivity-based negotiations.

NCB managers recognize that, although a typical collier these days is a car-owning, mortgage-paying professional, he could still be moved to strike by a government inspired campaign to replace national

strike.

Strike halts work on destroyer

Work on the new Royal Navy destroyer came to a standstill yesterday when Tyneside shipyard workers walked out in protest at continuing job losses in their industry.

About 270 semi-skilled men at Swan Hunter's Neptune yard at Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, downed tools over the latest wave of job losses, which they say have left them overworked. The strike spread quickly to 1,400 craftsmen who refused to work normally and later walked out after being told they would not be paid.

Work halted at the yard, where the Navy's latest Type 42 destroyer, the York, is being fitted out. Work on a merchant ship and a cable vessel was also stopped.

Swan Hunter management said later that the men had ignored grievance procedures by walking out without notice.

Swan has sought 510 redundancies in the first phase of British Shipbuilders' threatened programme of 9,000 redundancies nationwide. The Tyneside yard had almost 900 volunteers for redundancy and 430 left last week. About 100 went from the Neptune yard and complaints began when the remaining workers reported for work on Monday.

Mr Denis Shadbolt, Swan's director of Personnel and industrial relations, said: "Where we have reduced we have got to make up the shortfall by greater efficiency. The number of employees is not an issue for negotiation."

The dispute could not have come at a more critical time for Swan Hunter. The company is in the running for at least one of two destroyer orders expected to be announced later this year. British Shipbuilders will be watching to see whether the dispute spreads to other yards. The strikers, meanwhile, will meet this morning to decide their next move.

• Strikers at the Highland Fabricators oil platform yard at Nigg, on the Cromarty Firth plan a mass picket on Monday, when the management hopes to resume work.

All but 400 of the 2,000 workers dismissed last week have been offered reinstatement; the unions want everyone taken back. The trouble broke out over the withdrawal of free orange juice for working in hot conditions, but the unions have accused the management of using the dispute to cut its workforce.

• The Redfern National Glassworks in York, which lost £1m in the first half of this year, is to close in December, with the loss of 225 jobs. Production will be concentrated on the company's other plants at Barlaston.

A spokesman said yesterday: "Making a profit was not our aim, but obviously we are not disappointed. This is a fast-growing firm and we are invested in it with a view to encouraging it to Scotland".

There are already six semiconductor manufacturers in Scotland, but IMP's plans to build custom circuits would be an important and highly advanced addition to Scotland's growing electronics industry.

• A government-backed scheme taking unemployed Scottish school-leavers into computer training was launched yesterday.

Forty young people have been taken on by a Glasgow computer firm, Microcom, which will provide the one-year course in operating micro-computers. A spokesman said businesses in Scotland desperately needed micro-computer operators, and predicted the course could eventually turn out 400 "graduates" each year.

Island for sale: The 50-acre island of Jethou, three miles from Guernsey, is to be sold. It is the third private Channel Island to come on the market in the past two months.

The lease of the island,

which is Crown property, is being put up for sale by Lady Hayward, widow of the millionaire Sir Charles Hayward, who died in February. Offers of half a

million pounds upwards are being invited.

The Haywards, who

bought the lease in 1971,

carried out extensive im-

provement to the early

nineteenth century house

at two months.

Jethou's best known

tenant was the author Sir

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Police hunting men who assaulted boy lack vital computer software

By David Nicholson-Lord
the "Yorkshire Ripper" case.

Although there have been a number of initiatives designed to speed up the use of computers, the only active use in cases like that in Brighton has been in a pilot study carried out in Essex. Known as Major Incident Room Index and Action Management (Miriam), it is aimed at the sort of incident now being handled in Brighton.

The Sussex force has one of the most advanced computer systems in the country, but it does not have the program needed for cross-referencing the information from the 300 telephone calls a day which it is receiving.

Details are being stored on filing cards in metal trays. A police spokesman said yesterday: "We have got a paper mountain of information in there but we have not got the software package and program that will run this sort of incident."

The police yesterday rejected suggestions that their inquiries are faltering.

Det Chief Insp Peter Whitehouse, who is heading the investigation, praised the co-operation of the press, the public and other police forces. "I am absolutely confident that we are going to catch them. I am convinced that somewhere in the system is information which is going to lead us to these three men."

Criticism that failure to use computers is a considerable flaw in police handling of big incidents was made recently in a report by the Chief Inspector of Constabulary into the West Yorkshire police's handling of

one of the attackers but was terrified to come forward, are being sent to police forces in the north of England.

The fact that the man has not come forward, despite repeated appeals, has led officers in charge of the investigation to conclude that he may have been a hoaxer.

Interpol have so far failed to identify a brown car with German number plates seen near where the boy was kidnapped.

A couple heard "screams of fear" from the open ground immediately after the attack on the boy but did not notify police until four days later, it was disclosed yesterday.

The couple, who have declined to be named, live next to Beacon Hill, the area of open downland used by joggers and horse riders, and where a t-shirt thought to belong to the boy was spotted.

The police said that they heard the screams at about 9.30pm on the evening of the attack. The wife looked out of a window and saw several people and a child walking along a footpath further up the hill.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has asked for a report from the Metropolitan Police on the activities of the Paedophile Information Exchange before considering demands that he ban the organization.

The report will be separate from the files submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions which involve consideration of the prosecution of individuals.

Legionnaire disease man dies

A man aged 23 who was a kidney transplant patient, has died from legionnaire's disease and three other cases of the disease have been confirmed among patients at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. A fifth case is suspected.

Laboratory staff are checking the water supply at the hospital, which was opened in 1979. There was an outbreak of the disease there two years ago.

Mr John Kurtz, consultant biologist at the hospital, said he believed all the cases were isolated incidents and that the water system was not to blame. A hospital spokesman said the water supply is regularly inspected but confirmed that checks were being increased. Legionnaire's disease, a condition with some similarities to pneumonia, is often contracted through bacteria in water supplies.

Murder attempt charges fail

A man was cleared yesterday of attempting to murder three people. Christopher Allen, aged 29, unemployed, of no fixed address, was sent in custody from Clerkenwell magistrates' court for trial on three charges of possessing a knife.

No evidence was offered on charges that he attempted to murder Mr Alfredo Albano, aged 61, Mrs Phyllis Waldren, aged 62, and Mrs Gloria Innes, aged 42, who were stabbed on London streets.

Biggest safety campaign opens

Britain's biggest home safety campaign, costing £100,000 and funded by the Manpower Services Commission, was opened in Gloucester yesterday by Mr David Cleaver, the Health Education Council's director general.

Gloucestershire has been chosen for an experiment which may lead to a national drive to reduce home accidents.

Microcomputer shops in North

A national network of 12 high street microcomputer shops is to be set up by next spring by the Cheshire-based publishing group EuropePress, at the cost of £1m.

The Greater Manchester area has been chosen for the first three, which will be opened within the next two weeks.

Students fined

Two students, Helena Cunningham, aged 21, from Leeds, and Ian Wilson, aged 23, from Glasgow, were each fined £20 by Harrogate magistrates yesterday after being convicted of obstructing the Prime Minister's car in Harrogate in May.

Gypsy grant

City councillors have voted to give gypsies £500 to help to finance a two-day festival in October at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, where factory owners have been withholding rates in protest over illegal camping on industrial estates.

Miner injured

Paul Lynam aged 18, a miner of Linby, Nottinghamshire, was critically ill with internal injuries after being trapped yesterday in a conveyor belt on an underground roadway at Babbington Colliery, Nottingham.

Open challenge by Ford

Ford is launching its first convertible European car for more than 20 years, to exploit the new popularity of open-top motoring, exemplified by the success of Volkswagen's Golf Convertible (our Motoring Correspondent writes).

The Escort Cabriolet (above) based on Europe's best-selling car, is already in production and will be shown at the Frankfurt Motor Show, opening on September 14. It will be available with 1.3, 1.6 or 1.8bhp fuel injection engine. Prices are yet to be decided.

Cancer mother dies in Australia

Mrs Sheryl Skirton, who refused treatment for cancer to save her unborn child, died in Melbourne, Australia, yesterday. Mrs Skirton, aged 35, a nurse, from Whitchurch, Bristol, gave birth to a boy weighing 2lb 10oz. on an aircraft at Melbourne Airport on August 3 while on her way to see her parents.

The decision means that about 1,200 householders in Castlebar, Co Mayo, may now be brought to court.

Lucan's tenant's to be sued for unpaid rent

Irish tenants of Lord Lucan who owe him or his estate an estimated £100,000 rent, unpaid since he vanished in 1974, are to be sued for the money.

Mr Michael Egan, a solicitor and agent for the Lucan family in Ireland, said that County Cork bankers, had received permission from the High Court in London to deal with the affairs of the missing peer.

The decision means that about 1,200 householders in Castlebar, Co Mayo, may now be brought to court.

David Claridge with his puppet Roland Rat

Big time beckons Roland Rat

By David Hewson

TV-am's first and only successful superstar set his masters a familiar show business riddle yesterday: Will Roland Rat quit for the big time?

Mr David Claridge, the actor, who introduced the rodent that pulled in the audiences who were not attracted by Anna Ford and her fellow stars, has received several offers to move his meager to other areas of the ITV network.

"There are lots of offers around and at the moment I have yet to discuss the future with TV-am," he said. "We are talking about a Roland Rat Christmas Special to be filmed in Switzerland, but we need to recruit more people to expand. I am just a one-man show at the moment," he said.

Surfing along on the crest of a wave



Making waves: A competitor in the biggest surfing event in Europe, the Foster's Draught EuroPro, which began at Fistral Beach, Newquay, Cornwall, on Tuesday, goes through his paces. Forty-eight leading international professionals are competing in the world-class event for \$20,000 (£13,330) prize money. The contest, which ends on Sunday, was won last year by Richard Cram, from Australia. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Holidays in hotels most popular with children

The ideal holiday for children in a "posh" hotel abroad where they can stay up late, according to a survey conducted by MORI for travel firm Thomas Cook, published yesterday.

It finds that children no longer want the traditional bucket and spade holiday by the seaside, self catering or camping holidays.

Only eight per cent of the 509 children aged between eight and 12 interviewed wanted to go on holiday in Britain. The favourite spot was North America, which won the approval of half ten out of ten.

"Perhaps its time-honoured theory that young children are not 'ready' for a holiday abroad, and are happier with what they know," Thomas Cook's marketing director, Mr Andrew Barrett, said.

Cases in which the evidence

alleged shoplifters needed to be dealt with more humanely, a Home Office committee said yesterday that no evidence had emerged to suggest that innocent people were being bored.

Parents were considered vital ingredients of a good holiday by 77 per cent of the youngsters. A boy aged eight said: "My dad's different... he mucks about and doesn't get as cross and if he does he just sort of taps you."

"A court cannot convict on a shoplifting charge unless it is satisfied beyond reasonable

Shoplifters' treatment defended

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Rejecting a suggestion that alleged shoplifters needed to be dealt with more humanely, a Home Office committee said yesterday that no evidence had emerged to suggest that innocent people were being bored.

"We would accept that people who are sick, under stress or genuinely forgetful sometimes make mistakes when they are shopping," the committee's report said.

Cases in which the evidence concerning the intention to steal was inconclusive were filtered out immediately when the police decided whether to prosecute, the committee reported.

"A court cannot convict on a shoplifting charge unless it is satisfied beyond reasonable

doubt that the goods were taken dishonestly rather than by inadvertence or forgetfulness," it added.

The suggestion dismissed by the committee advocated the introduction of a preliminary procedure before a court hearing, especially where the person concerned was ill or elderly and had no previous convictions.

In 1981 the police issued 47,443 cautions in shoplifting cases while 75,833 offenders were found guilty of the offence in magistrates' and crown courts.

Shoplifting and Theft by Shop Staff: A review by the Home Office Standing Committee on Crime Prevention 1983. (Stationery Office: £2.75).

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that Mr Boothby had criticized a senior Hampshire policeman for dropping a shoplifting case because he said it would cost too much.

After being told that Mr Kenneth Boothby, assistant chief constable of Hampshire would be offering no evidence against a man accused of shoplifting, Judge Ian Starforth Hill said that he would be sending Mr Boothby a strongly worded letter expressing his anger that the case had been allowed to get to crown court before being dropped.

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that Mr Boothby had thought the case would be a waste of public money. The alleged theft involved a packet of batteries.

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Alfa Romeo



'Work' will transform schooling

By Lucy Hodges
Education Correspondent

The new subject called "work", now being taught in schools, could completely change the nature of state schooling by pushing yet more academic education out of state schools into the independent sector, according to Professor Samuel Eggleston, head of the education department at Keele University.

Speaking yesterday to the education section, he said that young people seemed to enjoy work experience schemes.

"Evidence is available in most reports that they are seen to be interesting and certainly less boring than other aspects of school". Professor Eggleston, an expert on the subject, said. "Attendance during work experience programmes often runs at a consistently higher level than participation in 'normal' school."

There was also evidence that well planned work experience gave young people a better chance of obtaining a job.

Earthquakes a risk in UK geologist says

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain is more vulnerable to earthquakes than most scientists recognize, according to Dr R. Muir Wood, a senior geologist with Principia Mechanica, consultant engineers, of London.

His assertion was made at a discussion on the impact of natural disasters, volcanic and seismic, on climate and on living things. His conclusions are based on the results of a three-year research programme undertaken, he claims for the first time, into the complete record of historical evidence of earthquakes in Britain.

He had sifted 8,000 pages of archive material to identify 1,000 earthquakes, the earliest in 600 AD. His research revealed many previously unknown earthquakes.

He says that British earthquakes have ruined cathedrals, churches and numerous houses as well as producing fatalities. While Scotland had had many small tremors and had attracted the attention of seismologists, the largest and most damaging earthquakes had been in southern Britain. For example, Swansea, lying on an active fault-bed passing from Pembrokeshire to Hereford, had been

damaged severely four times since 1700.

But the biggest earthquake belt and one that stretches into Kent, was seismically active zone passing from Cologne through Belgium and across the Channel, finishing in the London basin.

An examination of the activity along that fault showed for instance, that in 1382 earthquake damage extended from Flanders to Canterbury, where the cathedral bell tower was demolished. In 1580, an earthquake around the Strait of Dover killed people as far away as London and Belgium.

Despite two small damaging earthquakes in London in 1750, and the great Colchester earthquake that shattered houses and churches in several villages in 1884, there had been no repetition of such considerable events.

But Dr Muir Wood said that Britain needed to take its earthquakes more seriously. "The British still believe earthquakes are about as English as pizza and, unlike the Germans or French, have no national network of monitoring stations," he said.

Talking computers will soon have human faces as well as human speech. The stimulus comes from medical research to help people with impaired speech and hearing.

It was one of the innovations reported to a meeting of the association's psychology section on the clinical applications of electronically synthesized speech and the progress in speech recognition by computer.

Introducing the topic, Professor M. P. Haggard, director of the Medical Research Council's Institute of Hearing Research at Nottingham University, gave preliminary findings of a study into the response of drivers of the new Austin Maestro, which is equipped to "talk" to its driver.

Professor Haggard said that computers with a human face as well as human voices were also described by Dr Michael Brooke, of Lancaster University, in a demonstration of computer graphics.

The human face of talking computers

To learn a computer dialect might even influence British industry by encouraging the learning of a second language.

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Deep crisis for Dutch spending

By Our Technology Correspondent

The Dutch welfare state, probably the most generous in the world, is in deep crisis according to a professor of economics from Amsterdam University.

Professor Michael Elman described Dutch experience to the association's economic section as a particular dramatic example of the more widespread "crisis of the welfare state" which was affecting many Western countries.

Holland had developed its welfare programme during the economic boom of the 1950s and 1960s, with strong support from the Christian Democrats and the labour movement.

The financial insecurity of a market economy had been abolished, with just hidden shocks in the shape of unemployment benefit increases and income tax cuts.

Only 6 per cent of the population lived in poverty in 1979, according to the Dutch definition, compared with Britain's 20 per cent.

Dutch unemployment was soaring. It had overtaken the British level in April.

The second tail, the one which intrigues astronauts most, was formed by escaping gas. The gas molecules apparently left the surface of the comet at much higher velocities than the dust particles and were therefore scarcely affected by the radiation pressure which influenced the shape of the dust particles. It appeared as if the tails were being blown away from the comet by a wind from the sun with a speed of more than 500 km a second.

The solar wind was a plasma, an electrical gas. All the particles in it were electrically charged, half of them with a positive charge, and half with a negative charge. The comet's gas was also a plasma.

The scientists wanted to measure what happened when two very different plasmas, the solar wind and cometary gas, met. Dr Johnstone said:

"Many classical reactions were believed to take place, some under the influence of sunlight to make the cometary gas form a complex mixture. But since the complex mixture did not seem to contain much in the solid state, one of Giotto's tasks was to try to find the parent molecules from which the atoms and molecules have come."

Hattersley formula for equality

By Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley elaborated yesterday on what is becoming the favourite theme of his campaign for the Labour Party leadership - equality of outcome rather than equality of opportunity.

Speaking to the education section on "Challenge of the Eighties - the Pursuit of Equality", Mr Hattersley called for a campaign on all fronts to "compensate" the underprivileged and to limit the ability of the rich and powerful to exploit their riches and power.

He attacked the idea that "something called equality of opportunity could be created without equality itself". People who believed that "achieved a race which was inevitably won by the strong".

Belief in equality of opportunity is expressed most often in education, Mr Hattersley said. It has been developed into the myth that education can itself be an instrument of liberation.

"That is tragically untrue", he continued. "Without changes in the structure of society and practical programme for achieving equality of outcome would not be difficult to construct."

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Space explorer: An artist's impression (left) of the Giotto Satellite which will photograph the nucleus of Halley's Comet in 1986 and gather information on the comet's coma region and tail. Right: Mr Steve Kelloch with Giotto's British component, the Johnstone plasma analyzer, for which he is experiment manager. (Photographer: John Voss).

Halley's comet to be 'met' in space

By Our Science Editor

Preparations are at an advanced stage for a scientific satellite which will make a close encounter with Halley's Comet in three years' time. The project, called the Giotto experiment, is to photograph the nucleus of the body, and take measurement of the particles of dust which will be found to form the comet's schmutz-tail.

Describing the special preparations for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, Dr A. D. Johnstone, of the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College, London, said that there were two separate tails pointing in slightly different directions. They could only be easily distinguished when seen from the correct angle. Each tail was produced by material released from the nucleus and dragged away from the comet by external forces.

To understand the formation of a tail, scientists had to establish what the material was, and what the forces were which moved it away from the nucleus, and how it was made visible to us on Earth.

One of the tails was made of dust particles formed of tiny pieces of solid mineral ranging in size from less than a micron (millionth of a millimetre) to several millimetres and weighing, at most, a few tenth of a gram.

The second tail, the one which intrigues astronauts most, was formed by escaping gas. The gas molecules apparently left the surface of the comet at much higher velocities than the dust particles and were therefore scarcely affected by the radiation pressure which influenced the shape of the dust particles. It appeared as if the tails were being blown away from the comet by a wind from the sun with a speed of more than 500 km a second.

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New hormones that could trigger a revolution

By Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

Concerning engineering, Mr Hattersley elaborated yesterday on what is becoming the favourite theme of his campaign for the Labour Party leadership - equality of outcome rather than equality of opportunity.

A molecule called "pancreatic encephalin" could be a powerful pain killer. It can pass through the blood-brain barrier and is therefore biologically active when injected into the blood.

This molecule has had its gene sequence analysed and cloned in bacteria, and work is under way to produce this in sufficiently large quantities to put into clinical trials", Dr Chalifour said.

Other brain hormones may be able to alleviate depression and even overcome learning difficulties.

Widow flies in for funeral

Aquino assassination inquiry ordered

Manila (Reuters) - President Marcos of the Philippines last night announced that a special commission would investigate the murder of Benigno Aquino.

Mr Aquino was shot dead at the airport as he arrived from three years of self-imposed exile on Sunday.

The President's announcement came as the opposition leader's widow, Corazon, arrived from the United States with her son and four daughters for his funeral.

"This is a sad day for me, I will say more after seeing my husband", she said at the airport. The family, some of them in tears, were welcomed by relatives and friends and were surrounded by security guards as they left the airport.

The presidential statement said the Government was offering a reward of about \$30,000 for information leading to the arrest of the killer or killers. The special commission would have powers for a free, unlimited and exhaustive investigation into all aspects of the "tragedy". No timing was given for the start of the inquiry.

Demand for an independent inquiry have come from the opposition in Parliament, notably from Mr Francisco Tatad, an independent opposition figure and President Marcos' Information Minister for 10 years.

The palace statement said the commission, headed by chief justice Enrique Fernandez and comprising four other Supreme Court judges, would be empowered to call witnesses and other evidence.

Shortly before the statement was issued, the Manila police chief, Major-General Prospero Olivas, said investigations had produced no clues to the identity of the alleged assassin.



Face in the crowd: Mrs Aquino arriving in Manila last night.

shot dead at the airport by security men.

He said police had been unable to trace ownership of the man's .357 magnum and it would take time to identify his fingerprints if he has a criminal record.

A US congressman said yesterday that President Reagan should not decide whether to go ahead with his planned trip to the Philippines until further

Swiss Army chooses a German tank

From Our Correspondent, Geneva

Intensive contacts went on yesterday among delegations to the 35-nation European Security Review conference before Spain for Malta to drop its stubborn stand which has held up a concluding meeting at foreign ministers level early next month.

All the nations, except Malta, reached agreement on a final document on East-West relations on July 15. Malta has held out for greater attention to

information was available on the murder.

Mr Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific affairs, interrupted a tour of South-East Asia to return to Manila and express condolences to the widow and family of Mr Aquino, a personal friend.

Asked about a White House statement that Washington was

not considering cancelling Mr Reagan's November visit because of the killing, he said: "It would be premature to make any final decision at this time until further information is made available on the murder."

In Tokyo, the Japanese journalist who claims Philippines security men shot Mr Aquino, said he may ask Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to help to establish his case.

Crucial day for Malta at Madrid conference

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Mediterranean security problems.

The centrepiece of this East-West gathering, the first since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979, would be the encounter between Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

A subsequent concluding session of the nearly three-year old meeting would be held separately.

Swiss Army chooses a German tank

From Our Correspondent, Geneva

The Swiss Army's new combat tank is to be the West German Leopard 2. Not the American M1 Abrams. This decision was approved yesterday by the Swiss Cabinet.

Technical evaluation of the two tanks started more than two years ago, with two models of each under test.

The arrangement for manufacture under licence will give the West German tank a price advantage. The Leopard 2 was also judged to be more "technically mature".

Whitehall studying 'junta for trial' claim

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Western diplomats were last night studying a report that leading members of the Argentine Government during last year's Falklands conflict are likely to face trial.

The report, in the Buenos Aires Eronist newspaper *La Voz*, said this was the main recommendation of an official military inquiry set up after the Argentine defeat.

The first reaction of diplomats in Buenos Aires was to accept the report as genuine, but there was no confirmation last night in Whitehall, whose only contact with the Buenos Aires government is through a small interests section in the Swiss Embassy.

Not only General Leopoldo Galtieri and the other two members of the military junta, but also Señor Nicomed Costa Méndez, the former Foreign Minister, and General Mario Benjamin Menéndez, who was appointed governor of the Falklands after the Argentine invasion, have been recommended for trial by the inquiry, according to the newspaper.

● BUENOS AIRES: Military sources said recently that the inquiry had concluded that Argentina handled the conflict badly from the start to finish (Reuter reports).

Although the alleged report placed prime responsibility for the conduct of Argentina's diplomacy on the junta, it severely criticized Señor Costa Méndez for being short-sighted and rigid.

He was informed of the junta's intention to use force as an option for gaining control of the Falklands when he was appointed in December 1981.

He was told on March 23, 1982, 10 days in advance, that an invasion was going ahead, and he agreed to the plan on condition that Argentina's seizure of the islands should be used as the basis for a subsequent negotiated settlement with Britain.

He did not make the junta understand that Britain might well refuse to negotiate when faced with the completed military action.

It also blamed Señor Costa Méndez for failing to see that the United States would side with Britain in the conflict and for being too rigid in his interpretation of Argentine sovereignty in negotiations to try to avert a military clash with Britain.

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Man in the news

Britain to lose a Senate friend

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

The decision by Senator John Tower (Republican, Texas) not to seek relection next year not only removes from the Senate an outspoken conservative and an ardent campaigner for increased military spending, but will also deprive Britain of one of its leading champions in the US Congress.

During the Falklands crisis last year Senator Tower was the first prominent figure in the United States to speak up openly in support of Britain.

At a time when the US was still trying to act as a mediator between Britain and Argentina, Senator Tower reminded the Reagan Administration of its obligations towards its closest ally if American peace efforts failed. In the event, the US did come out in open support of Britain once the fighting started.

"Congress could have made life very difficult for us if it had



Mr Tower: Pinstripe suits and British cigarettes

wanted to," a British diplomat commented yesterday, referring to the military assistance the United States gave to Britain during the fighting. Fortunately, American sentiment was heavily in our favour, thanks to the influence of people like John Tower."

Senator Tower, who is 57, looks more like an Englishman

than the son of an itinerant preacher who grew up in the number towns of eastern Texas. His father's pinstripe suits and British-made cigarettes and contributes his "global views" to the two years he spent as a graduate student at the London School of Economics in the early 1950s when, he notes, Britain still had an empire.

Senator Tower, who took over Lyndon Johnson's seat in the Senate 22 years ago, is the second most senior Republican in the Upper House and chairman of the Senate's key armed services committee. In this latter capacity he has fought hard to push through President Reagan's defence programme, particularly the controversial MX missile.

His decision not to stand again next year came as a surprise, although it has been noted that he faced a particularly tough fight in a state which by tradition is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Chemical weapons hope dashed

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl yesterday forcefully restated his Government's commitment to deploy new Nato missiles in West Germany and to stick to the planned timetable.

His statements, made in an interview with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, were published the day after the results of his force of anti-nuclear sentiment in his own country, which was strikingly shown by a poll commissioned by the ZDF television channel in July.

This showed that 75.5 per cent of all West Germans are in favour of further negotiations and against deployment - an increase over the 62 per cent who opposed the missiles in an earlier poll. Even 61 per cent of Christian Democrats and 71 per cent of Free Democrats, whose parties constitute the Government, shared this view.

The Christian Democratic Union quickly questioned these results, saying the question was missing whether the West Germans wanted to go on being threatened by the Soviet SS20 missiles.

Meanwhile, a polling agency has confirmed that the US information agency has commissioned a poll in West Germany to find out whether Dr Kohl can push through the deployment issue at home.

The Americans contend that the Russians are excessively rigid on the crucial issue of verification, but the Russians have been very slow to follow up their acceptance last year of the concept of on-site inspection by clarifying what they have in mind.

Their intention of leaving many points to be settled at a later stage is anathema to the United States which wants verification procedure details clear cut.

One opportunity that must not slip through Britain's fingers.

Twenty-five years ago, Britain's civil aircraft industry led the world with programmes like the Comet and the Viscount.

The all-new Airbus A320, the world's most advanced jetliner, will give British industry the opportunity to demonstrate itself a leader once again.

The remarkable A320, on which Britain will stake its aerospace future, is currently under the microscope of many key airlines around the world. Alongside it are some American derivatives whose basic technology stretches back to the early sixties.

At least 6000 British high-tech workers conscious of their future consider this unequal comparison is hardly fair competition.

Airbus

Turkish poll restricted to three parties at end of approval deadline

From Basit Gurdilek, Ankara

Only three parties will be able to contest the Turkish elections, set for November 6, because no others were able to meet the requirements of having by yesterday at least 30 approved founders and being organized in at least 34 of the 67 provinces.

The parties which qualified are the right-centre National List Democracy Party, headed by Mr Turgut Sinalp, a former General, and reputed to be enjoying the full backing of the ruling military; the conservative Motherland Party of former Deputy Prime Minister and economy chief Mr Turgut Ozal; and the Populist Party, which claims to represent the social democrats, headed by Mr Necdet Calp, a former provincial governor.

The rest of the 14 parties established since last May to replace ones banned after the army coup in September 1980, were excluded.

Among the are the conservative Right Way Party and the social democrat Sodep. Both were left short of the required number of founders because of vetoes by the ruling National Security Council last Friday on the alternative names they had proposed, although they had easily organized in all the provinces.

Iran settles debt to US bank

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Iran has paid \$419.5 (£280m) it owed to the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Treasury Department announced here.

It is the biggest debt settlement that Iran has made to American banks under the January 1981 agreement for the release of 52 American hostages held in Iran for 444 days.

As part of the hostage agreement, \$1.418m was put in a Bank of England escrow

account to cover settlements of claims of United States banks for loans to the pre-revolutionary Government of the Shah.

Iran has also settled claims of 19 other American commercial banks.

The 20 settlements have drawn down the escrow account by about \$835.9m.

In return for the latest payment, the federally supported Export-Import Bank has withdrawn claims pending at an

Iran-US claims tribunal, which was established under the hostage agreement.

The Treasury announcement said that the Export-Import Bank would receive \$419.5m in payment on its non-syndicated debt claims against Iran.

The announcement also said that other US banks have been meeting Bank Markazi representatives in London and were in the process of negotiating their respective claims.

Political observers expect the leading figures of both parties to run as independent candidates.

disbanded upon the inauguration of parliament, but President Kenan Evren, vested with sweeping powers by the new constitution adopted last November, will still have a dominant position above it for six more years.

The main contest is expected to be between the Nationalist Democracy Party, on whose ticket Mr Bulent Ulusu, the Prime Minister, and four ministers will run as independent candidates, and the Motherland Party, which is credited with rapidly-growing support.

The protest has prompted an investigation - which may lead to a prosecution - against Mr Inonu, son of Ismet Inonu the soldier and statesman.

The three parties allowed to enter the poll will compete for some 400 seats in a single-chamber Grand National Assembly to be elected for a five-year term. But candidates will also have to run the gauntlet of vetoes by the National Security Council. Parties will have to secure at least 10 per cent of the votes cast to be represented in Parliament.

Political observers expect the leading figures of both parties to

run as independent candidates.



Dressed to kill: Lieutenant-General Abdül-Halim Abu Ghazala, the Egyptian Defence Minister, left, and US Lieutenant-General Robert Kingston reviewing joint manoeuvres yesterday in the Western Desert.

Nightmare stops an airliner

Ankara (AFP) - A West German passenger forced a Turkish airliner to return to Istanbul shortly after take-off on Tuesday when he apparently awoke from a nap and mistook a nightmare for reality, the newspaper *Hürriyet* reported.

Herr Wolfgang Strophe, from Munich, leapt out of his seat shouting there was a bomb on the aircraft, which returned to Yesilkoy airport.

A search of the suitcase to which Herr Strophe pointed revealed not a bomb but a bottle of rum, a potent local liquor. He said he had fallen asleep before take-off and dreamt that a bomb was hidden in the suitcase and woke up shouting in terror.

He was arrested and an investigation has been opened by the authorities.

Official sources in Cracow,

Top man's surrender blow to Solidarity

where Mr Hardek operated as the regional underground leader, said he was interviewed at the military prosecutor's office. He reported to police earlier this week.

They believed he would be freed soon under the terms of an amnesty declared when martial law was lifted last month, offering activists freedom from prosecution if they surrendered and made statements of their offences.

Solidarity figures in Warsaw speculated that Mr Hardek may have been captured by the authorities and threatened with a stiff jail term if he refused to announce his "surrender".

Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of Solidarity, questioned about Mr Hardek as he left the Gdańsk shipyard, said, "I don't speculate about things like that. I am just not going to talk about it."

His appearance on state television on Tuesday night, reading a statement renouncing further underground activity as pointless, raised questions about the future of the struggle by activists in hiding to promote the ideals of the movement.

It was clearly a blow to opposition morale and followed a weak response to call for a go-slow as part of protests marking the third anniversary of the strike and agreements that led to the birth of the union in 1980.

Official sources in Cracow,

Chad says rebels are advancing

Ndjamena (Reuters) - Two columns of rebels backed by Libyan armour in northern Chad are advancing towards two government outposts, the Chadian Information Minister, Mr Soumarie Mahamat, said yesterday.

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about the future of the struggle

by activists in hiding to

promote the ideals of the move-

ment.

It was clearly a blow to

opposition morale and followed a

weak response to call for a

go-slow as part of protests

marking the third anniversary

of the strike and agreements

that led to the birth of the union

in 1980.

Official sources in Cracow,

where Mr Hardek operated as

the regional underground leader,

said he was interviewed at

the military prosecutor's office.

He reported to police earlier

this week.

They believed he would be

freed soon under the terms of

an amnesty declared when

martial law was lifted last

month, offering activists free

dom from prosecution if they

surrendered and made state

ments of their offences.

Solidarity figures in Warsaw

speculated that Mr Hardek

may have been captured by the

authorities and threatened with

a stiff jail term if he refused to

</

Generals out of touch as Chile looks to the post-Pinochet era

From Florencia Viana, Santiago

A ring of unreality pervaded the firm speeches by armed forces chiefs and the official threats against "forces of chaos" which marked this week's tenth anniversary of General Augusto Pinochet's seizure of power in Chile.

General Pinochet and his supporters still occupy the leadership, but Chile itself has undoubtedly entered the post-Pinochet era, with political debate centring on what will happen when he resigns. Though the President seems not to realize what is happening, the facts are piling up.

In a country that lives an intense political life, where already new candidates for the presidency are presenting themselves and new governmental programmes are being discussed, General Pinochet has been forced to accept what previously, for him, was always unacceptable. When he addresses the country, it seems as if he is talking about a country that no longer exists.

One of his phrases that "not one single leaf in Chile moves without his knowledge" has lost all validity. Today, the leaves move by themselves, raised by a wind that does not wait for the boss's permission.

Chile in 1983 is not the country that spoke with whispers under the reign of terror of one man and his secret forces. The people have lost much of their fear, and are calling in loud voices for his resignation.

When several trade unions called in May for a protest against the military regime, the noise of the pots and pans banging in the early evenings was timid under the slogan "Democracy now", the protests continued in June and July, and the Government felt obliged to

impose a curfew starting at 8pm on the evening of the protest.

Earlier this month, General Pinochet issued a warning that the Government would not tolerate any more protests, and threatened to occupy Santiago with 18,000 troops. In spite of this, protests continued for two days, leaving 26 dead and 1,500 arrested.

The new minister has recognized the legality of the non-violent protest, stating even that for the next protest - expected on the tenth anniversary celebration of the military regime - he would not call out the armed forces, but would leave the consequences to those who organize it.

He has also declared that legalization of the new formation of political parties next year will be studied, as well as an election of Congress before the fixed date of 1989.

These statements do not necessarily signify that the military Government has changed its character. Rather that these are decisions forced by circumstances and useful for courting the Christian Democrats, who a few weeks ago organized a coalition of various parties, called the "Democratic Alliance", with representatives from the right and the Radicals.

Their programme is based on a dialogue with the Government, with a prior condition that General Pinochet resigns.

Within the Christian Democrats, however, several of the right-wing leaders now seem willing to participate in the dialogue offered by Señor Onore Jarpa.

The left-wing forces - which in the next few days are to launch a democratic and popular government programme - are demanding not only General Pinochet's exit from office, but that the entire junta resign in favour of a transitional government under the President of the Supreme Court.

General Pinochet: Forced to make concessions.

Agent orange makers sued

Vietnam veterans battle in court

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In what promises to be a cause célèbre, 20,000 ex-servicemen are suing the makers of agent orange, the defoliant sprayed on jungles by the Americans during the Vietnam War to deny cover to their enemies. The men claim they were harmed by handling it.

The herbicide contained dioxin, itself the focus of controversy. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regards dioxin as highly toxic, and the minute traces have been shown to cause cancer in some animals.

Nobody can say how dangerous it is to man, but fear of its supposed insidious effects is widespread. For example, the Government is buying the town of Times Beach, Missouri, paying \$21m to rehouse the population of 2,400, after an examination revealed dioxin in the soil.

In other parts of the country people have been alarmed by the discovery that dioxin in chemical plant waste has been carelessly and illegally dumped near their homes.

In the Vietnam veterans' case, expected to start next year, the leading defendant is the Dow Chemical Company of Michigan, the largest supplier of agent orange. It is now trying to improve its image stained by the dioxin scare.

The company believes it is being made a scapegoat because of the public's emotional response to the use of agent orange, and napalm, another Dow product made notorious in Vietnam.

Dow and the EPA have long been glaring at each other over the dioxin issue. Dow is an old and proud company and has always resisted being stampeded by studies it believes to be scientifically unsound. To some the company looks arrogant.

Archbishop of Prague attacks state

Strike hits main Tamil city in Sri Lanka

From Our Correspondent Colombo

Residents of Jaffna, the administrative capital of the Tamil area of Sri Lanka, yesterday held a general strike with all schools, offices, shops and workplaces closed and all road transport stopped.

It marked the killing a month ago of 52 Tamil prisoners in a Colombo jail by Sinhalese prisoners. The killings took place in TWO incidents on July 25 and July 27.

In Colombo a Government spokesman said no one had claimed responsibility for carrying the strike.

The curfew was reduced from nine hours to five hours from yesterday.

With about 13,000 people still in refugee camps a government spokesman said about 65 per cent of those in Colombo were stateless and would have to be the subject of discussions between the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments.

The cardinal appealed to the authorities to consider, in the interest of peaceful coexistence and other values, "a more fruitful alternative to this old, continuous, superluous conflict," Kathpress said.



Death wish: New York rescue workers holding on to a struggling woman who had jumped into the Hudson river. She screamed: "Let me go, I want to die."

Moi prepares for next five years

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Daniel arap Moi was yesterday assured of reelection for the next five years, when he presented his nomination papers from the ruling Kenya African National Union (Kanu) in an open-air ceremony here.

Although his reelection was a foregone conclusion - there is only one party in Kenya, and the Kanu president is automatically the only candidate - thousands attended the cer-

emony, with tribal dancers and musicians making it a colourful occasion.

President Moi pledged to uphold the Kanu manifesto, which has just been issued for the general election on September 26.

The party's pledges to work for national unity and economic progress, and emphasises the need to reduce Kenya's four per cent birth rate.

Kanu's governing council,

chaired by President Moi, has approved 991 candidates for the 158 elected seats in Parliament.

Four prospective candidates were rejected because they either had criminal records or were not considered to have followed Kanu policies.

The elections were not due until late next year, but were brought forward by President Moi after a political crisis in which he accused unnamed ministers of disloyalty.

Mauritius gets down to balancing the books

Port Louis (AFP) Economic problems will dominate the first weeks of the new coalition Government which has won power in the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius.

Mr Anerood Jugnauth's administration will have to prepare a tough budget to present to Parliament and start discussions with the International Monetary Fund in an attempt to emerge from the worst economic crisis the country has known.

The Prime Minister's three-party coalition - his own Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM), Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam's Labour Party and Sir Gaetan Duval's Social Democratic Party - took 41 of the 60 seats for Mauritius itself, against 19 for the opposition Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM) of Mr Paul Berenger.

On the neighbouring island of Rodrigues the Rodrigue People's Organization (OPR), normally allied to the MMM, took both seats.

The elections took place only 14 months after a left-wing coalition of the MSM and the Mauritian Socialist Party of Mr Harish Bodhoo swept the board, ousting the Labour Party which had ruled for 20 years.

But in a dispute over policy Mr Berenger, then Finance Minister, went into opposition with most of the MSM MP's.

On Sunday the MSM won 28 seats, Labour nine and the Social Democrats four, but the whole coalition took only 52 per cent of the votes, leaving the MMM the strongest party in terms of popular support.

The MMM was effectively leaderless in Parliament, as Mr Berenger, who founded the party, its Chairman and its Secretary-General all lost their seats.

Hongkong relations chief named by China

Peking (AFP) - China yesterday confirmed reports that the former Foreign Minister, Mr Ji Pengfei, has been named head of its Hongkong and Macao Affairs office, which is handling negotiations with Britain on the future of Hongkong.

Observers here said China clearly wanted to spell out its position on the future of the British colony to the international community as well as Britain.

Mr Ji, aged 73, was Foreign Minister from 1971 to 1974, a period which saw China re-admitted to the United Nations and Peking resume contacts with many Western nations, including Britain.

He became a Deputy Premier in 1979 and State Councillor in 1982, a position which has brought him into frequent contact with visiting foreign delegations.

• HONGKONG: China is developing relations with Macao to influence the negotiations on the future of Hongkong (Richard Hughes writes).

The current visit from Canton of the Governor of Guangdong province, Mr Li Liang Lingguang, and a delegation of six advisers, has underlined Canton's desire to forge closer political and technical links with provincial authorities across the border.

The popular Portuguese Governor of Macao, Admiral Vasco de Almeida E Costa, has warmly welcomed the delegation and accepted an invitation to visit Canton later this year, when plans for Chinese-financed reclamation of land and development of Macao's capitalist-colonial industry will be approved.

"The economic development of our province will benefit Macao just as a prosperous and stable Macao will benefit Guangdong," Mr Liang said.

CASH OR CREDIT AT GUARANTEED LOWEST DISCOUNT PRICES

INSTANT CREDIT AVAILABLE WITH TRIDENT'S BUDGET ACCOUNT - APR 26.8% WHICH MAY VARY.

AVAILABLE TO BANK CREDIT CARD HOLDERS, PAYABLE BY MONTHLY DIRECT DEBT CREDIT TO AMOUNT OF 24 TIMES YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENT (MINIMUM £5.00)

AUTOMATIC WASHERS

	TRIDENT	DISCOUNT	BUDGET	ACCOUNT	CREDIT
NOVA 215 1000 RPM 14kg	£49.95	£49.95	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00
SUPERNOVA 14kg 1400 RPM	£52.95	£52.95	£53.00	£53.00	£53.00
INDUSTRIAL 20kg 1400 RPM	£59.95	£59.95	£60.00	£60.00	£60.00
INDUSTRIAL 20kg 1600 RPM	£62.95	£62.95	£63.00	£63.00	£63.00
INDUSTRIAL 22kg 1600 RPM	£67.95	£67.95	£68.00	£68.00	£68.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£71.95	£71.95	£72.00	£72.00	£72.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£73.95	£73.95	£74.00	£74.00	£74.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£75.95	£75.95	£76.00	£76.00	£76.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£77.95	£77.95	£78.00	£78.00	£78.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£79.95	£79.95	£80.00	£80.00	£80.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£81.95	£81.95	£82.00	£82.00	£82.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£83.95	£83.95	£84.00	£84.00	£84.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£85.95	£85.95	£86.00	£86.00	£86.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£87.95	£87.95	£88.00	£88.00	£88.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£89.95	£89.95	£90.00	£90.00	£90.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£91.95	£91.95	£92.00	£92.00	£92.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£93.95	£93.95	£94.00	£94.00	£94.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£95.95	£95.95	£96.00	£96.00	£96.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£97.95	£97.95	£98.00	£98.00	£98.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£99.95	£99.95	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£101.95	£101.95	£102.00	£102.00	£102.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£103.95	£103.95	£104.00	£104.00	£104.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£105.95	£105.95	£106.00	£106.00	£106.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£107.95	£107.95	£108.00	£108.00	£108.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£109.95	£109.95	£110.00	£110.00	£110.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£111.95	£111.95	£112.00	£112.00	£112.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£113.95	£113.95	£114.00	£114.00	£114.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£115.95	£115.95	£116.00	£116.00	£116.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£117.95	£117.95	£118.00	£118.00	£118.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£119.95	£119.95	£120.00	£120.00	£120.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£121.95	£121.95	£122.00	£122.00	£122.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£123.95	£123.95	£124.00	£124.00	£124.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£125.95	£125.95	£126.00	£126.00	£126.00
ZANUSSI 14kg 1600 RPM	£127.95	£127			

SPECTRUM

Knight of the stars

The walls of the observing room at Jodrell Bank are made up of banks of amplifiers, cables and computers, which analyse and record the signals picked up by the big dish. It was here, last thing at night for his three decades as director of the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories, that Sir Bernard Lovell would end his day, checking on the work in progress, offering advice and encouragement to the few remaining staff.

And it is Jodrell Bank which is Lovell's most tangible achievement and the most obvious evidence of his position as a major figure in international astronomy.

Born in Gloucestershire, Lovell graduated from Bristol university and in 1936 became assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university, where he came under the considerable influence of Professor Patrick Blackett.

Lovell's early research was with cosmic rays, the nuclei of atoms which hurtle through space. But like many other academics of his time he soon became involved in the development of radar (radio detection and range). On September 3, 1939, the day that Chamberlain broadcast the news that Britain was at war, Lovell was working in the operations room of an early warning station at Saxon Wold in Yorkshire.

He was part of a team developing radar for airborne interception (AI), enabling night fighters to locate enemy aircraft and manoeuvre within visual range. It was through working with radar during the war that Lovell also became familiar with the experimental problems of working with radio waves.

As the war continued, Lovell was placed in charge of another crucial radar development, Night bombing of Germany was proving ineffective. Two thirds of all crews failed to strike within five miles of their targets. The project, codenamed H2S, was the development of a radar "blind bombing" system to help pilots find their targets, but the system was bedevilled by problems.

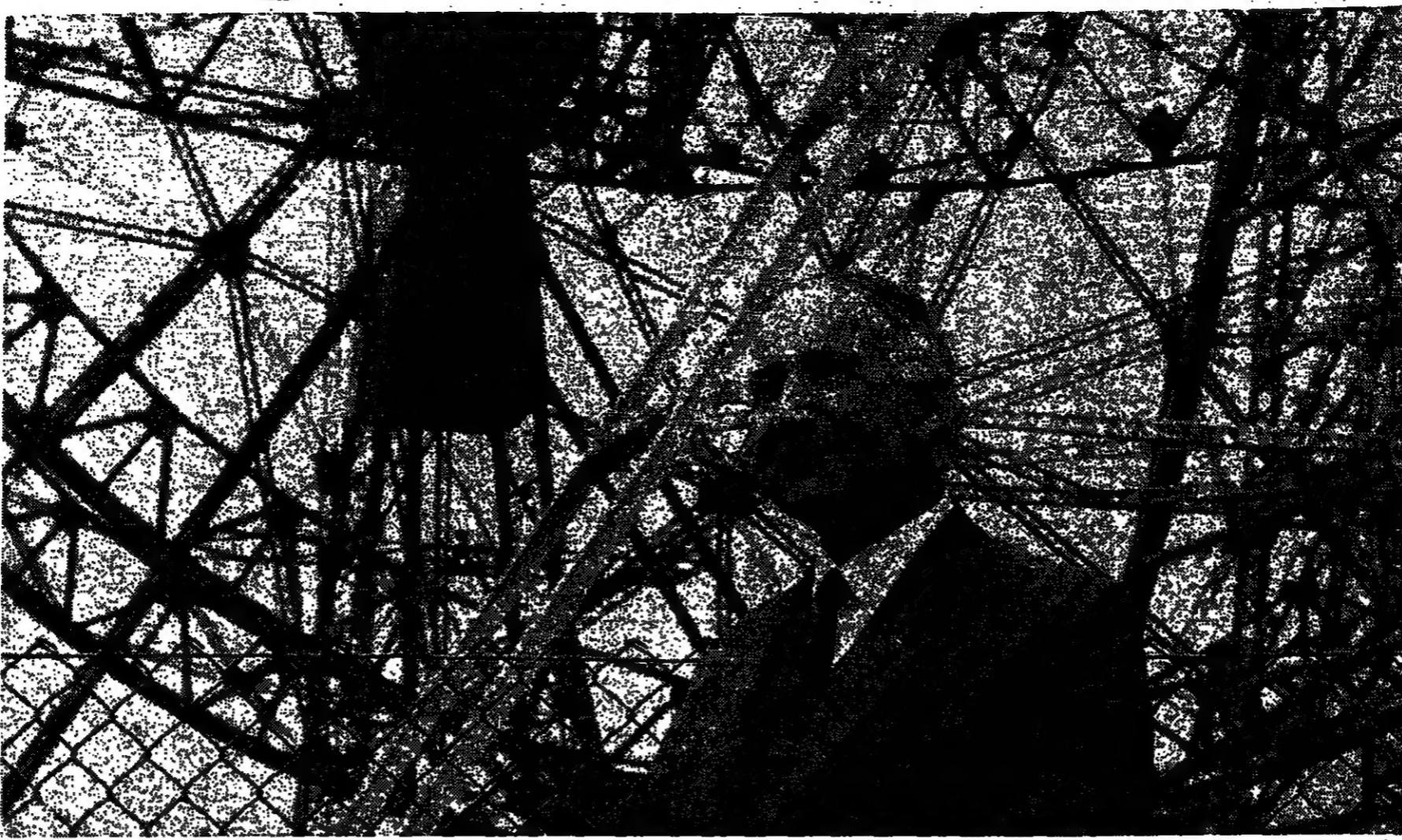
On July 3, 1942 however, Lovell and his colleagues met Winston Churchill in the Cabinet Room. Churchill demanded that the blind bombing apparatus be operational by October; a seemingly impossible task. But at the end of the year a system was working.

By the end of 1943, 32,000 out of 53,000 sorties were led by H2S aircraft. The same system could also detect submarines surfacing under cover of night. Hitler confessed that "the temporary setback in our U-boat campaign is due to a single technical invention of our enemies".

Lovell later said that he found his wartime experiences frustrating. At the end of the war, exhausted by six years of intense pressure, he returned to Manchester with two trailers of surplus radar equipment and a diesel with frozen fuel pipes. He set up a primitive station south of the city with two gardeners of the university's botanical grounds for company. The land once belonged to William Jauderell, who had fought with the Black Prince at Poitiers.

Some time before this, Lovell had suggested to Blackett that the rapid and transient echoes seen by coastal defence and airborne radar might be reflections from cosmic ray showers. Together they drew up a famous paper, "Radio, echoes and cosmic ray showers" (Blackett rewrote Lovell's first draft in a Westminster shelter during an air raid). The echoes turned out not to be from cosmic rays but from meteors and on October 9, 1946, Lovell observed an intense meteor shower.

His work soon demonstrated that the strongly held belief that sporadic meteors came from outside our solar system was wrong. Meteors are pieces of rocky debris that circle the sun, ranging in size from the microscopic upwards. When one is big enough a pinhead enters the earth's atmosphere and it burns up, becoming a familiar



The Times Profile: Sir Bernard Lovell at 70

"shooting star". Radar enabled much fainter and even daytime meteors to be detected. Later Lovell was to write a classic textbook on the subject.

In 1946, construction began of a 218ft diameter fixed parabolic telescope consisting of fields of wires. This telescope contributed much to the re-emergence of radio astronomy after the Second World War.

By 1948, Lovell had plans for a 250ft fully steerable dish. After a meeting at Edinburgh university, where Lovell presented his case, Sir Edward Appleton recorded: "All present were emphatic that every effort should be made to erect such a steerable instrument in Great Britain". In 1950 support came from astronomical and governmental quarters and in 1952 Husband and Company of Sheffield and London were appointed as engineers. Work began that autumn.

Ten thousand tons of reinforced concrete were poured into the foundations and eventually 2,000 tons of metal made up the superstructure. But the construction of the "big dish" was far from straightforward. The escalating costs became the subject of a House of Commons committee. Delays, mounting costs, increasing debts and bureaucracy wove a 10-year nightmare of intractable problems around Lovell, threatening at one time to send him to prison for alleged overspending of government money.

There was bitter opposition from other university departments and from Manchester corporation. But the public rallied and contributed £500,000 of the £850,000 cost. Although huge at the time, these sums were tiny compared to those spent on the US and Russian space programmes.

The first radio waves were picked up on August 2, 1957. Two months later the Russians launched Sputnik 1.

Lovell was in the right place at the right time and had an instrument that could vastly outperform anything else. One small radar echo confounded the opponents of Jodrell Bank, who were calling it a costly and technological white elephant. Jodrell Bank produced not only radar tracking of the first ever artificial satellite, but also its

carrier rocket, the first ever intercontinental ballistic missile. Nothing in the US or the USSR could match the big dish.

Later Jodrell was to pull off another coup. It transmitted signals to the American Pioneer V deep space probe to release it from its carrier rocket. The big dish was the only one capable of establishing radio contact with the probe at a distance of more than 22 million miles. Afterwards, a telephone call came from Lord Nuffield:

"Is that Lovell?" "Yes, my lord." "How much is still owing on the telescope?" "About £50,000." "Is that all, I want to pay it off."

Lovell was left speechless.

It was Lovell's contribution to astronomy, however, that kept it at the forefront of science for decades. Radio echoes from the moon gave a new accuracy to the measurement of the solar system. The telescope did much to investigate the shape and rotation of our own Milky Way. Because radio light is scarce compared to optical light it can traverse vast distances through space. Jodrell Bank measured the positions of radio sources that were found to be the most distant and energetic objects known in

the universe. These were called quasars and are exploding galaxies half a universe away.

I first met Lovell when I was a research student at Jodrell Bank. I was the junior member of the team headed by Lovell which looked for explosions on the surfaces of nearby stars – explosions similar to the solar flares seen on the sun.

Over the past decade the emphasis of research at Jodrell Bank has shifted away from the use of the single big dish to explore the universe. Jodrell pioneered a technique called radio interferometry whereby two small dishes some distance apart can be electronically connected in such a way as to perform like a single large dish of a size equal to the distance between them. Jodrell now has an array of telescopes throughout England and Wales which it uses to emit signals of a strength equal to that of an enormous single telescope.

Lovell's stewardship of what is perhaps Britain's most famous centre for science has not gone without criticism. A recent research team from the University of Sussex compared Jodrell Bank with three other centres of radio astronomy: Cambridge and

two others in Europe. They concluded that Jodrell performed poorly in the years 1969-75.

Lovell counters by arguing that this 10-year period is an unrepresentative "snapshot" and that it is misleading to compare Jodrell and Cambridge, since they are two aspects of the same national radio astronomy programme. Lovell points out that in 1967 he and other top radio astronomers took a policy decision to delay the re-equipping of Jodrell Bank and to build an array of telescopes at Cambridge.

In 1981, when Lovell handed over the directorship of Jodrell to Professor Graham Smith – who had left Jodrell in 1974 to become director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory – he pointed out that the big dish had already exceeded its expected 15-year lifetime by 10 years and was good for at least another 20.

Aside from his technical publications, Lovell has written many popular books communicating his understanding as well as his philosophy of nature. He conveys an exciting and positive image of all aspects of science and unlike many science writers is not swayed by fad or fashion.

He is a complex and diverse person. His keen interest in cricket has recently led to an investigation into electronic aids for umpires. He has demonstrated the art of water divining. Other interests include gardening and literature. He is a musician who particularly enjoys Elgar.

His love of his country was exemplified when he said that being away from England in the spring was "a peculiar form of masochism".

Although retired from the directorship of Jodrell Bank, Lovell still continues his researches and writings in an office built for him in the shadow of the big dish. It is true to say that radio astronomy has changed man's conception of the universe. The radio astronomy facilities he built up at Jodrell Bank have played a large role in the widening of horizons. Lovell has called it "the centre of imminencies".

David Whitehouse

The author is an astrophysicist at University College London.



As seen by David Levine in 1969

ALFRED CHARLES BERNARD LOVELL
born August 31, 1913.
1936 Assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university.
1937 Married Mary Joyce Chertman.
1939 Development of radar airborne interception system.
1941 December 28: placed in charge of blind bombing.
1945 December: returns to Manchester with surplus radio equipment.
1946 Construction begins of 218ft fixed dish.
1952 Autumn: Construction of Mark 1 telescope begins.
1955 Elected Fellow of Royal Society.
1957 August 2: Mark 1 telescope operational.
1957 October 13: Became first ever professor of radio astronomy.
1960 March 11: Pioneer 5 contacted at 22 million miles.
1961 Knighted.
1969-71 President Royal Astronomical Society.
1970-76 Vice-president International Astronomical Union.
1981 October: Retires as director of Jodrell Bank.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research

PUBLIC OPINION

Hanging is one thing; I do understand that many MPs vote with their conscience in the full knowledge and respect of their constituents' opinions. I do feel, however, that it is less likely to do with conscience and more with the adult lobbying of MPs by entrenched and well-organized opponents that Ray Whitney's Private Members' Bill fell in the last session of Parliament.

The first was travelling to the holiday, among those who went by ship, nearly half (44 per cent) thought it "very exciting". But it clearly had its drawbacks: one 12-year-old girl said to us: "You start to get excited, I love going on ferries, then you start to get ill".

The other finding I liked best was about who chooses where to go. None of the kids we talked to claimed they alone made the choice, but about one in six said they participate in the decision-making to a greater or lesser degree, like the nine-year girl who said: "We have this quiz, who goes where, and my dad normally wins".

Never on Sunday?

The Home Secretary has announced that the Government is to investigate the Sunday trading regulations. And well they might, for according to the work we carried out for the National Consumer Council last year, 62 per cent of the public said they wanted their MPs to vote for a Bill allowing shops to choose when they open and shut.

There is a striking association between cigarette smoking and social class. Only about one in five of those in the professions now smoke, 29 per cent of employers and managers, around four in ten of skilled manual workers but nearly half of unskilled manual workers smoke, ie those least able to afford the expense.

FINDINGS

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moreover...
Miles Kington

More lines on parking

The story so far: Seamus Dally, car-hire millionaire and would-be broadcaster, is accused of removing a double yellow line in order to park without charge. He denies the charge stoutly, as who wouldn't. Now read on. You never know it might happen to you. Counsel: Mr Dally, the court has heard the police witness describe how the whole street was covered in a double yellow line. It has also heard your say that there was a gap in the double yellow line large enough for you to park in. Who do you honestly expect the court to believe, you or the police?

Defendant: Me.

Counsel: Yes, well, fair enough. Still, I think you ought to offer some explanation of this gap in the yellow line, don't you?

Defendant: It strikes me that so far the court has concentrated entirely on the absence of a double yellow line beneath my car, and has assumed that because it wasn't there, it must have been removed.

Judge: What other possible explanation is there?

Defendant: There is another theory that has not even been considered by the court so far, and that is that the yellow line was there all the time – but was not visible.

Counsel: Could you explain that?

Defendant: There is nothing easier than to buy a roll of black sticky tape and to spread it out over the double yellow line in such a way that it entirely covers the paint and looks like a bit of road, potholes and all.

Counsel: So that's what you did!

Judge: So that's the way it was?

Defendant: Not at all. You merely asked me for another explanation and I have given you one. I neither removed the yellow line nor covered it up. However, there is yet another theory...

Judge: Great stuff! I love theories. It's facts I can't handle.

Defendant: I would like to call a witness.

Judge: Defendants can't call witnesses, not if they're already in the witness stand.

Defendant: We can in fact. Call William Carsairs! (After a bit of shuffling, Mr Carsairs comes on to the witness stand with the defendant.) You are William Carsairs, a road-painter?

Carsairs: I was them.

Defendant: When?

Carsairs: In 1980, the year you are going to ask me about, when I painted Sears Roebeck Road end to end with a double yellow line.

Defendant: Could you tell the court how you arrived at your work?

Carsairs: I drove there.

Defendant: And where did you leave your car?

Carsairs: In Sears Roebeck Road, of course. It was the only free street for miles. Defendant: Did you paint yellow lines under your car?

Carsairs: No, I left it till later, so that when I moved the car – oh, blimey! You're right! I clean forgot to go back and paint that bit. Stone me!

Defendant: And there, gentlemen of the jury, you have it. The yellow lines were not removed by me because they were never there in the first place. In fact, I myself went back the next day and painted the lines in, voluntarily. None of all the yellow lines in London, that short stretch is not the property of the Metropolitan Police, it belongs to me.

Judge: If I have got this straight, a man stands here accused of taking something which was never there, and even if it had been there, it would have been his own property. Who says that British justice is not the most wonderful in the world? Case dismissed!

Clerk: My Lord, we have just had a message from the outside world. It's from the BBC, and they say that one of their employees, a Mr Henry Kelly, is not feeling well. They ask if the defendant is free to stand by to replace him...

Defendant: Lord be praised! It's my big break! Hallelujah!

(Readers who like happy endings may be interested to know that the Seamus Dally Show will be one of the BBC's big autumn offerings.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD
(No. 133)

Gone East

It is holiday time for much of the population. Roads are less crowded, commuter trains less packed, restaurant tables are easier to book and generally it seems easier to get about. About 6 per cent of the electorate were away from home on June 9, including 5 per cent who were on holiday and therefore unable to vote at the general election.

According to the 1982 British Tourist Authority's British National Travel Survey, carried out by NOP, 24 per cent of holidays in Britain are taken in August, as are 17 per cent of holidays taken abroad. Two thirds, 66 per cent, of those who went abroad travelled by air, 30 per cent by boat, 3 per cent by Hovercraft and 61 per cent went on package holidays (including cruises). Spain/Majorca was still the most popular destination (26 per cent), with France in second place at 14 per cent, Greece 8 per cent, Italy 6 per cent and United States at 5 per cent, down (along with the pound) from 7 per cent last year.

Robert Worcester

The author is managing director of Market Opinion and Research International.

ACROSS

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

**Brian Alderson hunts the golden hare
Selling a million?****Quest for the Golden Hare**
by Bamber Gascoigne
(Cape, £7.95)

In August 1979 the artist Kit Williams buried an 18-carat golden toy in a park at Ampthill. A month later Jonathan Cape published his book of largely pictorial clues to its discovery under the title of *Masquerade*. And in February 1982, after a million copies of the book had been sold, a gentleman who called himself Ken Thomas dug the thing up. For everyone involved – not least the tens of thousands of disappointed treasure-hunters – *Masquerade* became a 946 (or 947) day wonder. Now though, with the publication of Bamber Gascoigne's *Quest*, it is to be hoped that the whole episode can be turned a good deal deeper than ever was the hare.

One reason for saying this is the conclusiveness of Mr Gascoigne's story. As the only witness at the start of the performance, and as a self-confessed duffer at puzzles, he is well placed to give a full and a dispassionate account of the *Masquerade* craze and he has taxed this essentially trivial event for all its possible implications. (Not the least of this is man's infinite capacity

for self-delusion.) Moreover, he manages to rib gently both the creators of and the contestants in the craze, so that despite the apparent solidity of his 224-page analysis there is much occasion for quiet comedy.

But a stronger reason for wanting to commit this whole affair to oblivion relates to its baneful effect on the way that people think about picture books. For – as Mr Gascoigne clearly shows – Kit Williams was not really interested in creating a book where words and pictures grow into an organic unity. *Masquerade* was primarily a bound-up collection of paintings, forced into a crude relationship to each other by a remarkably banal text. In essence it was just another example of those picture books so beloved of Central European publishers and Hampstead book-buyers, which follow the adage "Never mind the story, just look at the paint".

This view has dominated much picture-book publishing in recent years – although it is now being overtaken by a perverse cult of graphic crudity. ("Never mind the story, look at the social significance.") But here and there one can still pick out a few offerings that owe allegiance to honored traditions of picture-book art.

Among the present batch, I am particularly taken with Pat

pearling *Taxi*, *Mortimer's Cross*, and *Mortimer's Portrait* on Glass – and it is an extremely funny book, where everything is pushed to the edge of hysterical farce, yet has a firm foundation in life. Where else would the Kalgoorlie bars from the docks roost, but Rumbury Tower Heights, a grievesome office block put up at such great expense that no one has ever been able to afford to work in it? Not only a bat hostel, but a robber's hideout, a lair for kidnappers, and a wonderful spot for stowboarding.

Pirate radios, stolen taxicabs, holidays in Ireland, even tin figures largely, Great Aunt Olwen Jones, who comes from Bangor to look after the family when Mum has flu is a splendid creation, and Quentin Blake has created a companion portrait to the terrifying Aunt Fidget Wonkham Strong (who wore iron hats) from Russell Hoban's *Najork* saga. They are sisters in spirit, and Great Aunt Olwen, in her never-ending battle against germs and dirt, manages to repress the hitherto irrepressible Mortimer by giving him a bath.

Cyril Bonhamy is the hero (you can describe him as such) of two earlier books, and he is one of those people who, quite innocently, are always in the midst of a huge misunderstanding. He is under the impression that he can speak French, and that he is speaking it to the Director of the Public Library in Nice, where he is on holiday with his mother, Deirdre. He is, in fact, speaking to the head of a gang of international crooks, who are under the impression that Cyril is one of them. How he comes to be on the run from the gendarmerie across France and into Belgium, part of the time disguised as a housemaid and

No ravens by order**Mortimer's Cross**
By Joan Aiken
(Cape, £5.50)**Cyril Bonhamy and the Great Drain Robbery**
By Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy
(Cape, £4.95)

If you ever wondered what difference an illustrator made to the text, you have only to look at the work of Quentin Blake. With Joan Aiken, the fantastical wits are well matched; with Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, the illustrations improve the text.

Mortimer the raven is well known to Jackdaw watchers, and he lives with the Jones family in Rainwater Crescent in a dismal part of London – or it could be anywhere in the less than brave new world the planners have created. Ravens are large, threatening birds, and Mortimer is no exception. So awful is he that the Library Committee has gone to the trouble of having a special notice made which reads "No Ravens in the Library, By Order". Arabel Jones, the little girl who loves Mortimer, can never understand why people really don't care for a big black bird who causes nothing but trouble, and only says "Kazark", or, alternatively "Nevermore".

There are three stories – *The Mystery of Mr Jones's Disap-*

part of the time smearing very strongly of sewage is one of those things that neither he, nor indeed anyone else, can get absolutely straight. I found the exploits of Cyril just a bit laboured, the film frantier rather than furious, and without the horrible logic of Mortimer and his habitat.

Philippa Toomey

Real not cardboard Healer
By Peter Dickinson
(Gollancz, £5.95)

There is something about spiritualism, clairvoyance and astrology that makes them oddly unsatisfactory topics for novels: it is as if they were too slippery, too eccentric, even as backdrops. Heroes who are not furies, and without the power of star-boarding.

Peter Dickinson, however, is a superb and reliable storyteller and deft enough with his characters in his new novel for younger readers, *Healer*, to manage not to make them suffer from finding themselves in a faith-healing community. An ingredient of the supernatural in the background – increasingly present in his more recent work – in fact only serves to add tension to a fast moving, rather old-fashioned, adventure story.

Pinkie is a stout, serious child possessed of a strange gift for healing. Rather inept when it comes to everyday practicalities, she is befriended at school by Barry, an older boy, who mends her glasses and accompanies her on visits to her grandfather.

Pinkie's talents are soon harnessed by a cult leader who marries her widowed mother and installs her – a prisoner – in a country house now turned into an extremely expensive healing centre. Barry, financed by Pinkie's anxious grandfather, tracks her down and engineers her escape. In a great finale, centering around a midnight chase, the two children make their get-away. But not forever! Peter Dickinson knows precisely where to brake the more improbable reaches of the imagination.

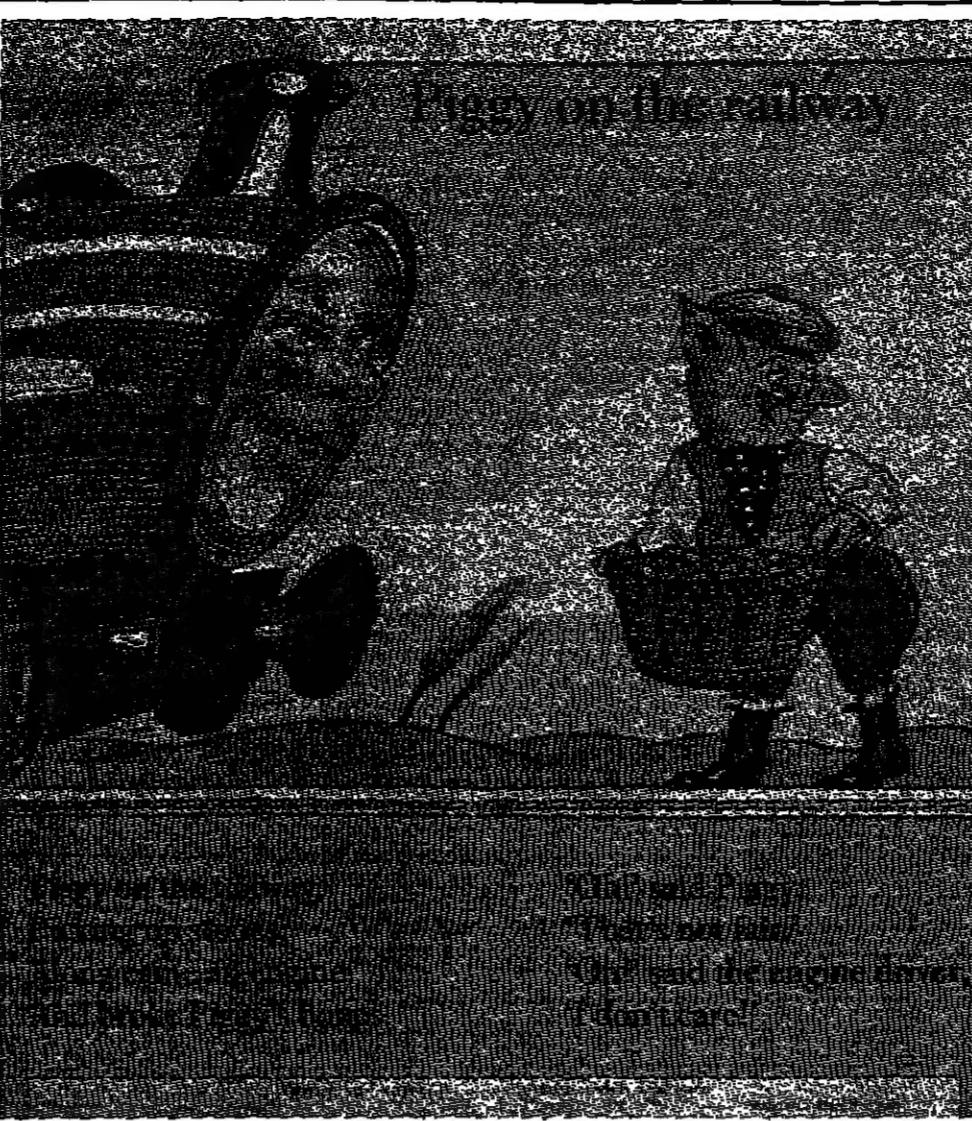
As with his books for adults *Healer* works because its characters work. Pinkie and Barry are real people, not cardboard figures, with the fears and needs of ordinary children. It is their solidarity that cleverly anchors a cast of adults whose behaviour is never wholly explained, but then in a child's eye, is adult behaviour ever wholly explicable? It is precisely this twist that makes *Healer* such a clever book.

Caroline Moorehead

Between stools

Dan Alone
By John Rowe Townsend
(Kestrel, £5.95)

In *Dan Alone* John Rowe Townsend returns to the North End streets, the pub and the derelict hide-away of his first book, *Gumlie's Yard*. The genesis of that first novel lay in the lives of the "socially deprived" as observed by Townsend in his capacity as reporter for the *Manchester Guardian*, when the treatment of such subject matter was seen as pioneering.

**Pictures and play-rhymes for chiro-gymnasts**

One of Ian Beck's thirty-ish colour pictures from *Round and Round the Garden*, a collection of play-rhymes made by Sarah Williams (Oxford University Press, £5.95). It's a book which cheerfully combines pictorial entertainment for the child with simple instructions for the parent on how to play these traditional action games, but such expansive treatment necessarily restricts the number of rhymes that can be used.

If you want to see a larger and more varied range of chiro-gymnastics then you should turn to two recent reprints: *Nora Montgomerie's This Little Pig Went to Market* (Bedley Head).

and a hard back edition of Elizabeth Matteson's *This Little Puffin* (Kestrel, £5.95). These are both large and systematically organized collections, so full of good things that they make one doubt whether heavy pictorial accompaniment really matters.

Another release worth noting is the paperback edition of Barbara Eason's *Faber Book of Nursery Verse* (Faber, £4.25). It's a book notorious for its dotty page layouts, but these are caused as much as anything by the prodigality and verve of the editor's selection.

B.A.

Dan Alone goes back in time to 1922 and an 11-year-old boy whose view of the world is heavily influenced by his reading of Victorian children's fiction – with its benevolent benefactors, long-lost but patriotic parents and saintly children. Dan acts out these fantasies in real life as he attempts to discover who his father is and to convert the thieves amongst whom he has fallen to righteous ways.

In between the Victorians is a reworking of a major *Gumlie's Yard* theme: children playing house for real as they hide away from the authorities. In both books there is a wealth of domestic detail and a great many floors are scrubbed.

Dan Alone falls uneventfully into the trap of having the emotional maturity to cope with it.

In a different way Sandy Asher's book poses a similar problem. Here we meet Debbie, a normal enough life with a boy-friend (albeit one four and a half inches shorter than she is) and with rows and make-ups from her parents (Irish mother, Italian father). Imposed on this, however, is an argument about trust, since she discovers that her elder sister is involved with a paedophilic drama teacher. For all Miss Asher's flip humour, which will be much to the taste of fans of Judy Blume, there is a serious question confronting Debbie about the keeping of promises and the balancing of her loyalty to parents, sister, friends and boy-friend.

This is something for which younger readers may not be entirely prepared. Do we leave them to get on with it, or is there an onus on parents, teachers and librarians to know more about this borderland of fiction that lies between, let us say, *Little Women* and *Lolita*?

Jennie Ingham

Celtic hinterland
The Dragonfly Years
By Mollie Hunter

(Puffin Books, £1.00)

Is the cult of the teenage novel just an excuse for literary ladies to write up-market Mills & Boon romances? Mollie Hunter's *The Dragonfly Years* has a veneer of culture about it.

Politics and religion in the Edinburgh of the 1930's are glimpsed. The heroine, Bridie McShane, first met in Miss Hunter's previous *A Sound of Chariots*, assures us constantly that she will subordinate everything to becoming a writer.

Her love-life, which is the *fin de siècle* of the story, is described with about the same conviction as occurs in most of the heart-throb paperbacks. No tension and a prose style that suggests it is one of Bridie's early efforts to impress her night-school tutor.

The same true prose characterizes Joan Lingard's Edinburgh story too, *The Winter Visitor* (Hamish Hamilton, £5.50). But at least Miss Lingard buries some of her drama in the narrative, instead of announcing it from stage-front. The story turns on the

Magical plots**The Genie and Her Bottle**

By Nina Beachcroft (Heinemann, £5.95)

Well Met by Witchlight; Under the Enchanter; A Visit to Folly Castle; The Wishing People
By Nina Beachcroft (Dragon Paperbacks, £1.25 each)

their own lives, but their inexperience at making decisions in the real world translates into a fatal clumsiness at making wishes. The obtuseness of parents to whom magic seems only a form of play (which at one level it is) leaves them to sort out the mess for themselves; and, perhaps, to grow up enough to conclude with Martha and Tom at the end of *The Wishing People* that "We didn't really know what we truly wanted".

These are homely books: adventurous neither in their subject matter nor in their treatment of it. The very familiarity of their tone and content makes them somehow forgettable; they do not linger in the mind. And yet in their refusal to play to the gallery, to make everything grand and wonderful or grand and terrible, their willingness to allow "the poetry" to wait if it conflicts with the chance of draughts", they achieve a quiet balance.

They offer, too, in place of originality, a refreshing liveliness of approach. Take, for instance, this splendid piece of invective delivered by the dilapidated good which Mary at first sight of her enemy Mrs Black in *Well Met by Witchlight*: "Poxie piece of a mangy polecat! Pah! Come to see what your miserable hail and wind have done you cracked silver of a cat's claw! You toad's bird."

In the course of some elemental battle between good and evil, this diatribe would probably delight the children who have chummed up with Mary; spat by a dirty, disreputable old woman at a smart middle-class lady in the middle of the village street, it is an acute embarrassment. Like Alex and Rob's genie, Mary is a nuisance as well as a pleasure: the mundane world will not accommodate her. And in the end it is the mundane world, the world of drudgery not poetry, "the richness of ordinary happy family life", which enfolds the children and excludes Mary. As Rob puts it, with *Leila* safely corked up again and bobbing down the Thames, "Here I come, Life!"

Neil Philip

titles and the third a brand new story. *Super Gran* is *Magic* assembles the now familiar cast: Mi Black, the inventor; Edison Faraday, his ham-footed daughter; Willard, who is Granny's grandson, and Super Tub, the reformed villain's assistant who takes in his stride both the "winter visitor" and the affair which his sister is having with an Italian restauranteur, and there's a lot of Lingardish stuff about the everlasting disputes of the Belfast Irish. Yet again though, it's not hard in all this to see the weary stereotypes of romance dressed up expensive in hard covers.

But if you look at another example of dire experiences in the Celtic hinterland, then you begin to see how stories should be written. Polly Devilin's *The Fair Side of the Lough* (Gollancz, £5.50) is ostensibly a set of tales told by Mary-Ellen to a young girl in her charge. All are drawn from Mary-Ellen's life as the daughter of a poor fisherman on the coast of Lough Neagh – but far from being mollifying experiences they are instinct with fierce life. Stark, terrible, comic things happen on the far side of that lough. Much loved dolls are decapitated, pigs are gutted before very eyes, the Black and Tans wreak pointless anguish on a gentle old man. Mary-Ellen lives for the reader as neither of those Scottish narrators do, and her plain authentic speech brings her stories pulsingly to life.

The chip test

Heather Renshaw

I've just looked at half a dozen different explanations of how a silicon chip is made. Three left me none the wiser; three made

some sense. The chip test is not

the only way of sorting out the

the flood of children's fact books

about computers that has

appeared in recent months. But

you have to start somewhere.

There is no doubt that every

home should have one. You

don't actually need to know

anything about how a computer

works to use one. But children

are growing up with the things

the home and school micros

they have access to are only a

small part of the story, and

most want to know more.

The books I have seen were

pretty similar in treatment

and even (with one

exception) the rather dreary mix

of pictures. They give a bit of

history, a bit about how

computers work, a bit about

programming, a bit about their

uses in the world, and a bit

about likely developments.

Some provide glimpses of a

computerized home of the

future. Few doubts are raised

about consequences and social

effects: computers are a Good

Thing, enabling mums and

children to work from home

and the police to catch more

criminals.

Most of the books were

adequately clear and informative.

The three best (all of which

passed the chip test) were the

Usborne Guide to Computers by

Brian Kettell Smith (Usborne, £1.50), Computer World, by

Jacquette Megarry (*Kingfisher*, £2.95) and Computers, by Neil

Ardrey (*Kingfisher*, £4.95).

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Palace of varieties

Alexandra Palace is to rise again. Louis Bizet, who administers the £30m trust set up to look after the building after it was gutted by fire in 1980, is jubilant that permission has been granted for redevelopment as an exhibition and leisure centre. The decision comes almost two years after a public inquiry which Bizet calls "the most uninteresting ever held". It attracted no more than four observers throughout, lasted six months, and had as its highpoint Bizet's joking suggestion that a complex of sex shops might make the operation commercially viable. This was taken seriously, but the resulting pandemonium went unreported because the press had long since ceased attending.

Spoilt rare bit

There is more trouble some news of a burnt building in Wales, the hotel at Portmeirion by Clough Williams-Ellis. After a succession of retrospective applications for planning permission for repairs already carried out in what conservationists consider an "unsatisfactory, crude and piecemeal" way, the Victorian Society has begged the Welsh Office to halt all work until a comprehensive restoration scheme has been approved. Teresa Sladen, of the Victorian Society, says: "The local authority and National Park office simply do not understand the aesthetic complaints we are raising with them. We have given up writing to Gwynedd County Council, and now we find the Welsh Office never replies." Clough Williams-Ellis did not bother much with planning authorities when creating the eccentric Italianate village of which the hotel is part, but then, a glance at the shoddy cafeteria erected amid his now listed buildings shows that his successors have inherited none of his sensitivity.

• An American has invented the vending machine in reverse. You put empty beer cans in, and get 24 cents out. This uncanny ecological improvement has gone into operation in South Carolina.

Own gaol

Arthur Logan Pritch retires as chairman of industrial tribunals in England and Wales next month. He holds a unique legal distinction. He once defended the man who burgled his house. Despite a strong plea in mitigation, praised by the judge, the man went to prison.

BARRY FANTONI



"Gerald's so brave. He picked up our old ironing board and just threw it on the tip."

Pawn and mate

The suspicions against President Marcos excited by the murder of Benigno Aquino and the immediate despatch of his assassin puts the President in the same class as Alexander the Great, Alexander's father, Philip II of Macedonia, was stabbed by a pawn called Pausanias while marching in the wedding procession of his daughter Cleopatra at Aegea in 336 BC. Pausanias was immediately captured and killed, and suspicion of having inspired his crime fell upon Alexander. The guilty party was more probably his mother, Olympias. Please do not read that to mean that I think Mrs Marcos fixed this one.

Fore and after

Seven well-known thriller writers have formed their own TV production company, and worked a surprise into the announcement of the fact. Philip Mackie, who scripted *Malice Aforethought*, is described by Houghton Mifflin as "one of the boys with toxic talents that went into his like *Malice Aforethought*". Is this a sequel or just a mini-series?

Devising a symbol for the European Currency Unit (ECU), which shares its name with an obsolete French coin and is a notional composite of all EEC currencies except the Greek drachma, is too easy for my readers. The two popular solutions were monograms of ECU, and the Greek E with a cancelling stroke to symbolize Greece's exclusion. Peter Grant suggested the Old English letter, thorn, "to immortalise the infallibly absurd Gaston Thorn and remind other members that Britain will continue to be a thorn in their flesh"; D. A. Johnson suggested a reversed ampersand because the money would go in "back 'anders"; and Colin Brown thought V sign appropriate. The winner, though, is Anne Ochsner whose symbol has Greek Es facing both ways (as any EEC symbol should), can be typed using brackets and a dash, and since the ECU does not exist as note or coin, she suggests, that "the ECU is a bum currency at which we should draw the line".

PHS

Cathy comes back for a handout

by David Walker

Faintly at first but unmistakably comes the noise of a lobby girding itself to battle for extra public expenditure.

Books, heart-rending stories in Sunday newspapers, a television series *Breadline Britain*, all proclaim that the poverty lobby is reorganizing. Parallel moves on the public housing front suggest that Cathy is likely to come home again in the mid-1980s, too.

A former *New Society* journalist, Paul Harrison, packages himself as a latterday Mayhew to penetrate darkest Stoke Newington and in a new *Penguin* treats us to an emotional account of this hidden Third World on our affluent doorsteps. There is "decay... dereliction... violent theft... massive levels of social need" and nary a Clissold Park gentrification in sight.

A survey is published telling us of unknown reservoirs of poverty: 7,000,000 Britons do not know where the next instalment on their colour television rental is coming from. Nearly 12,000,000 people (albeit on a sample of 1,174) are classified as sometimes poor.

But does this negate the untiring efforts of the poverty campaigners since the 1960s when the existence of primary poverty, despite the welfare state, was first given widespread publicity? Of course not: the MORI poll *subjective assessments* of the elements of a reasonable standard of living. People living on yesterday's moderate standards are today's "new poor". In fact, poverty campaigners of the Frank Field stamp have - with political allies from across the spectrum - made significant progress in alleviating primary deprivation.

'Inside the Inner City, £3.95'

What is happening now is only marginally connected with the institutionalized poverty groups. Such bodies as the Child Poverty Action Group have taken on an establishment colouring; indeed CPAG's Ruth Lister seems positively scholarly in her encyclopedic knowledge of the multi-volumed intricacies of social security.

Instead there are signs of a spill-over from the disarray of the Labour Party. The educated, altruistic middle class's moral indignation is increasingly denied the opportunities once provided by the Labour Party for political activism. Single-issue campaigning thus beckons attractive and, to be sure, the poor are always with us.

Objectively, Britain remains a society where income and life chances are unequal, where the gross facts of social disorganization (the single-parent families, the unattached elderly) and deprivation (the physical state of the core of private rented housing, the conditions of existence where the breadwinner is long-term unemployed) are stubbornly persistent.

These gross facts might, with time, respond to detailed social policies of a type that Margaret Thatcher's government has been singularly unwilling to develop; its priorities seem to have been merely expenditure control by chopping back demand-led outlays. Absent has been hard thinking about "problem" families, the care of children in low income environments and, most important, how to deliver services to such families. All that has been visible have, on the one hand, been the facile

mottos evidenced in the Family Policy Group's discussions and, on the other, a policy towards local authorities that implausibly seeks to kill off high-spending without burdening the social services that the high spending councils deliver.

But constructive social policy is one thing, emotional campaigns another. According to the MORI poll published last weekend the British public would support a 1p rise in income tax, presumably to "cure" poverty. This is simple-heartedness carried too far: enhanced cash handouts may be part of the solution for some poor people but part only. The "problem" of poverty in Britain is a tissue of inadequacy and even fecklessness as well as material want. It is a political problem, too, and not the kind to be solved by increasing the rate support grant to Hackney Borough Council. Council housing and council inefficiency are themselves part of the problem.

Would be poverty campaigners would do well to turn up the study published last year by the Social Science Research Council on cycles of deprivation. One finding was the need for an intensive policy for families which recognized that many poor people are inadequate and need - though the whole ethos of 1960s-style social work is against this - to be taught the virtues of thrift.

Affecting vignettes of life among the Hackney poor do not of themselves make a case for increased social security payments. They might, instead, suggest that the women of poor families need help and guidance on household management - a conclusion that no doubt smacks too much of the Grantham corner shop to make it acceptable to the morally indignant poverty lobby.

Richard Owen on the symbolic obstacle to Soviet economic progress

Andropov tries to jump the great Russian queue

MOSCOW

Rounding the corner from *The Times* office the other day I came across a queue three feet deep stretching for several blocks. Lucky (and patient) customers at the head of the queue were making off with their rare booty: toilet paper. Some carried unmanageable bundles, others were festooned with it. The following day the queue was still there, shuffling forward.

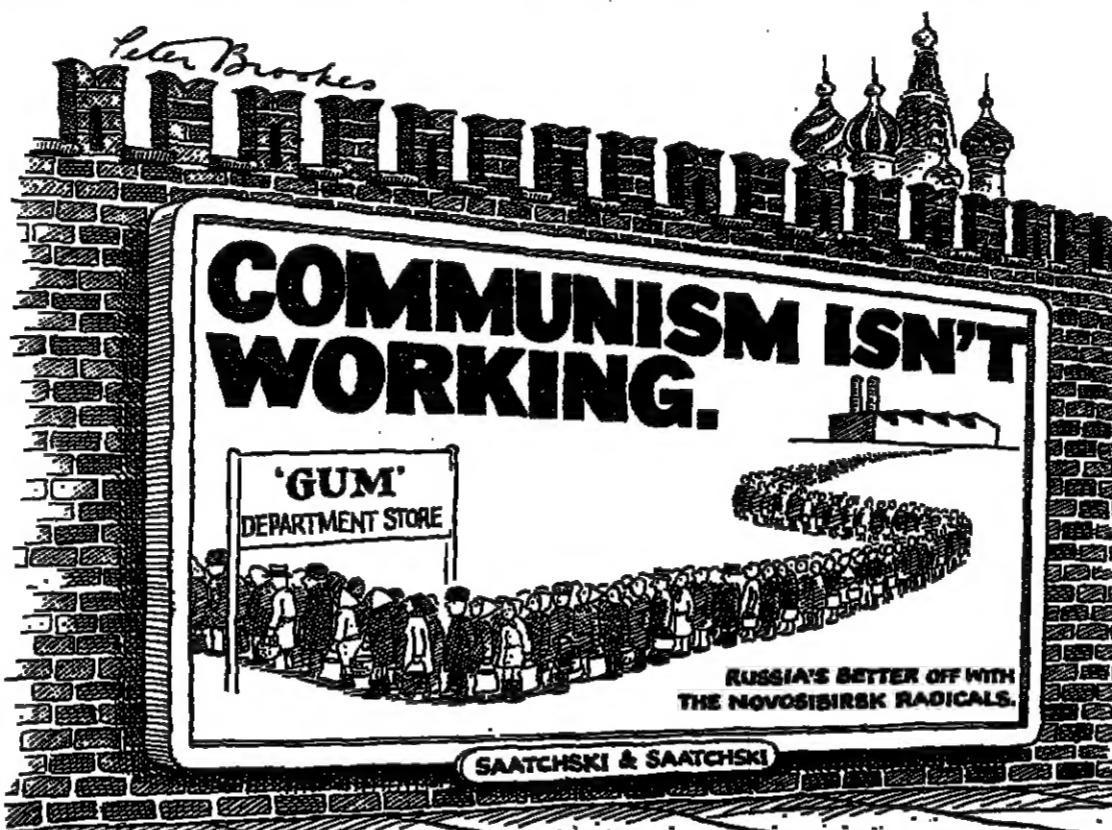
"The queue - any queue - is a perfect illustration of what Andropov is up against," an economist friend remarked. "Despite all our achievements, 65 years after the revolution we still cannot produce basic commodities. We are always laying the basis for future abundance while spending our daily lives in an endless search for everyday goods.

Queuing, together with absenteeism, is the most obvious sign of Russia's economic difficulties. The two are connected. Under a new law on labour discipline - Mr Andropov's hallmark - anyone found absent from his place of work for more than three hours a day is deemed absent for a day, and anyone absent for a day without good cause forfeits a day of holiday entitlement. Since three hours in a queue is not at all unusual, many Soviet factory and office workers are trapped.

If they take time off to buy shoes or sausage, they risk a stiff penalty, including having to pay compensation for loss of production at work; but if they do not take their place in the queue the family goes unfed or unshod.

Mr Andropov's answer is that if all workers stayed at their benches or desks and made more effort, the economy would grow to the point where supply would finally catch up with demand, and the queues would melt away.

Many Russians are sceptical, including the Kremlin advisers who recently leaked a damaging report on the Soviet economy to the western press (previously unheard-of). All senior economists from the elite research centre at Akademgorodok in Novosibirsk, the authors came to the conclusion that the Soviet economy needed thorough



overhaul if it was to be transformed from a fundamentally Stalinist system of central control into a sensitive economic mechanism attuned to workers' and consumers' needs and wishes. "Tackle the cause, not the symptoms", was the message from Novosibirsk.

This apparently common sense recommendation was put on one side as too radical after a top-level conference in April. Instead, the Kremlin announced a "limited economic experiment" in five selected industries from next January, giving plant managers vaguely defined powers over budget and manning and with a nod in the direction of profit and loss accounting.

The reformers and their Kremlin allies have come up against the immovable object on which all Soviet reformers sooner or later stub their toes: the entrenched bureaucracy. Mr Andropov has a sharp brain, and is slowly unfolding a long-term strategy which has been forming in his mind since he had access to the real facts of economic life as head of the KGB. But the average economic administrator is neither as sharp nor as perceptive, and is more concerned to keep his largely unnecessary job than to stimulate change and growth.

It is time not out of the question - and there are whispers to this effect in Moscow - that the Novosibirsk radicals' allies include Mr Andropov himself. Leaks do not happen by chance, least of all in the Soviet Union. Mr Nikolai Baibakov, Russia's chief state planner as head of Gosplan for nearly 20 years, gave a press conference in which he soft-pedalled the new measures, on the grounds that the economy was too large to restructure swiftly, and sought to minimize the significance of the leaked report. Yet only two days before, in a speech to party veterans, Mr Andropov had spoken of reforms stretching well into the next five year plan. Using language very close to that of the document, he criticized "half-measures" which had failed to overcome "accumulated inertia".

One observer of the Soviet scene remarked: "Nobody looking at Mr Baibakov could fail to think of accumulated inertia." Brezhnev-era officials point out that Mr Brezhnev also called for efficiency and labour discipline, but omit to add that Mr Andropov is doing something about it, in the face of opposition from Brezhnevites.

If Mr Andropov does succeed where others have failed, it will be because he is skilfully combining gradual reforms with a tough crackdown on indiscipline.

Mr Andropov has set an example by staying at his desk through much of the summer. But how far is he able or willing to go?

There have been some hints in the Soviet press that a little private enterprise here and there might not be a bad thing. One senior

economic official even suggested to me that a little unemployment in the grossly overmanned socialist economy would do no harm. Such unorthodox thoughts are clearly inspired by the dismal performance of an economy with declining growth rates (the growth rate target this year is only 3.2 per cent).

The reality remains that - as an Armenian economist disclosed in the theoretical journal *Kommunist* in June - the economic bureaucracy is colossal, with 64 ministries and 23 state committees dealing with all details of planning and production. "It is high time to reexamine the organization and management of the entire industrial complex" *Kommunist* declared. "It is not possible to continue multiplying ministries."

Perhaps not. Many Muscovites in the queue must have wondered why 64 ministries could not between them arrange for the production of toilet paper in the right quantities at the right time. On the other hand, neither *Kommunist* nor Mr Andropov, nor the Novosibirsk reformers have yet told us how Thatchertite principles of cost-effectiveness and streamlining can be applied to Russia without either undermining the ideological purity of Marxism-Leninism (sternly guarded by Mr Andropov himself) or provoking a counter-revolution from the kind of managers who know how to talk about efficiency but not how to achieve it.

It is hard to deny the conclusion of the Deloitte report that British Gas should be told exactly what its pricing strategy should be - regardless of short-term political interest - and then required to stick to it. This is because the pricing of gas has such extensive ramifications on the economy as a whole, including the rate of inflation and government revenues. It also has a direct bearing on the rate at which the country's gas reserves are being depleted.

Politicians being politicians, it is hard to believe however that they will ever come round to the principle that gas pricing should be taken out of the political arena. For that reason, the report may prove in the end to be no more than another silly season headline.

The Government is further complicating the situation by intervening in the corporation's affairs. Its financial targets for the industry are based on short-term public sector financial considerations

Gas prices: too hot for the government

If there were a ballot among rank-and-file Conservative MPs about the issues that caused them most grief during the last election campaign, gas prices would undoubtedly be in their Top Three. The Government's decision in 1979 to order the already highly profitable British Gas Corporation to double its domestic tariffs over a three-year period is one that most voters have never begun to comprehend - and it is no secret that many backbenchers think privately that the voters are right.

This week's report from the accountants Deloitte, Haskins and Sells on efficiency at British Gas will therefore reopen sensitive wounds with its conclusion that the corporation is still undercharging its customers and not doing enough to maximize its profits, a criticism that is the exact reverse of the one that the gas men normally spend their time answering.

There is no doubt, however, that the accountants have virtue - though not political expediency - on their side. The core of their argument is that the corporation, as a monopoly supplier without the benefit of market competition, should be basing its pricing policy on the costs it faces for its newest supplies (the so-called marginal cost) rather than on the actual average cost it happens to be paying on its existing and artificially depressed cheap North Sea supplies.

Upon potential consumers, the Deloitte report will not have been in vain.

The problem is that acknowledging a principle is one thing, implementing it quite another. For a start, even the experts cannot agree on what the proper price of gas should be, even if the marginal cost principle is accepted. Economists and Treasury officials both say sniffily that the marginal cost of gas is relatively easier to establish, compared with that of, say, electricity.

All the rough-and-ready indicators of the marginal cost - the price British Gas pays for its most expensive Norwegian imports, or the length of queues of customers wishing to switch from oil to gas - confirm that gas is under-priced on this basis. But the corporation, the Government and outside economists all have different opinions about how fast the ground should be made up. For example, Mr David Howell, the former Energy Secretary who was responsible for the three-year crash programme of price rises, now says that enough is enough and prices should be frozen.

The Government is further complicating the situation by intervening in the corporation's affairs. Its financial targets for the industry are based on short-term public sector financial considerations

rather than long-term requirements of the business. Political intervention in gas pricing also has a long pedigree: the Labour government raised prices quite unnecessarily in 1977 to raise £100m towards its International Monetary Fund rescue package, then froze them for electoral advantage ahead of the 1979 election. This Tory government initially continued the freeze, then launched its price-rise programme.

It is hard to deny the conclusion of the Deloitte report that British Gas should be told exactly what its pricing strategy should be - regardless of short-term political interest - and then required to stick to it. This is because the pricing of gas has such extensive ramifications on the economy as a whole, including the rate of inflation and government revenues. It also has a direct bearing on the rate at which the country's gas reserves are being depleted.

Politicians being politicians, it is

Taking the polite out of politician

Matthew Parris

Every age has its conventional wisdoms, most of them wrong. The really major idiocies are usually a matter of consensus between worthy men of all parties. The Armada, the Maginot Line and the tower block; the slave trade, the Test Act, our former immigration policy and the British Motor Corporation; the window tax, the Location of Offices Bureau and the reorganization of local government... all have commanded the respect among politicians that leeches used to command among the medical profession. I expect there was a time when one had only to call "Leeches!" from the backbenches in Parliament to elicit a resounding "Hear, Hear!" from both sides of the House. Now, one would be ordered to withdraw.

I dare say our age is the first to be completely free from delusion. However, just on the off chance that it is not, I wonder whether we are better-equipped than our forebears to beat and destroy can't?

Take the House of Commons. We enjoy a system of constituency representation which appoints 650 councillors for the defence, but no prosecutors. Human nature inclines the experts in any field to be its protagonist, and, though it is true that any MP could spend his time tearing into his constituents, the scared cows of their material interests, he is likely to do what he will be rewarded or thanked for, helping people.

In theory, of course, wherever resources are finite it should follow that to defend one interest is to oppose another. According to his theory, one's enthusiasm for a theatre museum would diminish as one's desire to augment the war widows' pension increased. But it does not seem to work that way. All the pressures are towards an MP promoting "his" constituents and "his" area of special interest. Who, then, will oppose them?

Anne Sofie suggested in these columns that we ask voters whom they would particularly not want to represent them. I expect she thinks this should count against a candidate but I wonder whether it could not count in his favour? Should we not balance our regular MPs with an elite cadre of members - anti-MPs if you like - chosen for the numbers of voters they had estranged and the depth of offence they had caused: members driven remorselessly by a need to be swept back into power, at the election, on a tide of anger and public loathing?

As things stand, important arguments are left prudently unhearsed. There is a case, for instance, against all regional policy - but we shall not hear it from the regional members. "None of your business" I remember an inner-city colleague retorting when, from my green and landlocked constituency I sneered at dockland redevelopment schemes. There is an argument about agricultural subsidy - but why master the mysteries of the green? Found if you do not represent farmers? And, if you do, why knock subsidy?

Now it may be objected that the official Opposition was a device designed to debunk the Government. Certainly the parties debunk each other but this is a diversion, a smoke screen to brood on this. The author is Conservative MP for West Derbyshire.

Jonathan Sale

Down to grass tracks with Urban Man

So much for the second home. That's it for 1983, which sees the end of a decade of happy second-home ownership. We look forward to the next 10 years of holidays in a structure that is free from rates, mortgages, dry rot and political disapproval. Meanwhile, into the loft goes the second home.

Our tent is a gothic folly in canvas (unlike the house, which is merely a folly). Each year it grows a little; an extra sleeping compartment, an awning. Yet all it needs is six square yards or so of grass, hired for a fortnight a year. I think of it as a form of time-sharing. We own the fabric, rent the caravans.

Each year, on the first day of the school holidays, a cheer echoes around the car and the trailer slips over the River Tamar and into Cornwall. This is generally agreed to be the moment at which we cease to be residents of bricks



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

DETENTION BY ERROR

Earlier this month a mentally handicapped patient who had been sent to Rampton Hospital 11 years ago as a boy of sixteen was released on the instructions of a Mental Health Review Tribunal, and became a voluntary in-patient at a mental hospital in his home town. The chairman of the tribunal took the unusual step of making public a statement in which he made clear that the patient, Mr Lyle Clarke, would have been unlikely on present guidelines to be accepted as a suitable patient for Rampton. He added that after the tribunal's original decision last May that he should be released, it was discovered that a number of bizarre allegations in his confidential medical record were exaggerated or wholly untrue. Whether by malice, negligence or innocent oversight, he had been the victim of a gross injustice.

The discovery was made by an ironic chance. After the tribunal's first decision, details apparently calculated to arouse public alarm about Mr Clarke's impending release were leaked to the press. It was partly because of this publication of allegations which had apparently been unknown to Mr Clarke or his family that it became possible to refute them and show that an even greater injustice had been done to him than had appeared at first.

The case is a prompt vindication of this year's reforms of the law on the review of the cases of compulsorily detained mental patients. The new system ensures that their cases should be considered by independent tri-

bunals at least every three years, and not to sink unexamined into an institutional dead-end if the patient himself lacks the initiative to seek a hearing. The extension of legal aid to these tribunals now allows a patient to be legally represented.

Mr Clarke's case is one of the first of many to be heard in the next few months. He had sought tribunal hearings before, in 1973 and 1975, but since then he had apparently given up hope to such an extent that he was initially reluctant to appear this year. His entire adult life has, after all, been spent at Rampton. In the earlier hearings he presumably represented himself, and since he was apparently unaware of the false charges in his records (which may be withheld from a patient if it is considered medically desirable) it is no wonder that he failed. Similarly, the solicitor presenting his case in May would have been unable to refer them to the patient himself and discover that they were denied.

Unlike many Rampton patients, Mr Clarke was not sent there for offences proved in court, though there was an initial court hearing connected with his legal guardianship. Northamptonshire County Council, now his legal guardian, initially opposed his release, partly because it claimed it had no suitable accommodation for him. As the public authority which would have to bear the cost and possible political odium if he were released, the county was exposed to an awkward potential conflict of interest. The inadequacy of accommodation

SANCTIONS NEED CONCERNING

The signing in Moscow today of a new five-year grain agreement between the United States and the USSR may mark a fresh approach by Washington to the thorny question of economic sanctions, but it certainly does not end the heated debate on how best to coordinate policy on East-West trade. There is resentment in Europe that whereas European industry suffered from US sanctions on the Siberian gas pipeline, in the grain deal US domestic politics weighed more heavily than the interests of the Alliance. West European governments, however, are themselves criticized for failing to cooperate on the pipeline issue, laying their countries open to the danger of depending on the USSR for a significant part of their energy supplies. Moreover, they are prepared to subsidize the sale of EEC butter to the USSR.

Of course governments must promote the prosperity of their countries through trade, and a secure military defence is possible only on the basis of a sound economy. President Reagan cannot disregard the farmers of the Mid-West who suffered from the export embargo imposed in 1980 after the invasion of Afghanistan. Mrs Thatcher was under similar pressures when Washington blocked shipments of US technology to the Siberian pipeline, hitting British suppliers of compressor station equipment. Even the EEC butter sales which certainly benefited the

USSR and the millionaire middlemen, also had some advantages for the taxpayers in saved storage costs.

Sanctions have a role in Nato policy, however, whether the aim is to encourage the Soviet leaders to behave better towards dissidents, Poles and Afghans, or whether it is no more than the understandable desire to prevent a hostile state becoming militarily or economically stronger than we are. But to serve any purpose they must be effective and to be effective they should be applied in a less piecemeal fashion than hitherto.

The Soviet authorities, reaping some advantage from their centralized political and economic control, derive great satisfaction from playing one Nato ally against another, and encouraging firms - often from the same country - to undercut each other. Grain sanctions lose impact when Canada, or a non-Nato source such as Argentina, offers alternative supplies. Just before the arrival in Moscow of Mr John Block, the US Secretary of Agriculture, Soviet officials told visiting Congressmen that any grain imports beyond the new annual minimum of nine million tons would not be bought from the USA unless balanced by the purchase of Soviet goods.

The ban on exporting Caterpillar pipelaying tractors to the USSR was rendered ineffective by Japan's Komatsu Company. It is not surprising that, given the answer seems obvious we should expand output.

BOWLING ALONG THE ROAD

A form of locomotion favoured by Toad and B Wooster must be good. So Ford thinks, for it has re-invented the convertible in a version of the Escort.

Convertibles are for motoring, which is distinct from driving much as boating is from rowing, or ping-pong from table-tennis. Motoring is an end in itself. The destination, the time taken, the quality of the radio reception, the registration number, the operational condition of the cigar lighter, all are secondary to the pure sensation of bowling along the road. As the sensation is keener if nothing stands between motorist and hedge-row except a current of warm air, your convertible is the thing.

Toad, it is true, was an exponent of the more aggressive, the "roadster", school of motoring. Even Bertie Wooster, under the stress of emotion, would

make the two-seater sing. But Toad was vainglorious, and the two-seater cooled down when Jeeves took the controls. Properly applied, convertibles are for use in pottering, not pace.

Since the collapsible Morris Minor went out of production years ago the only "popular" model available has been a rather pricey Beetle job from Germany. So for the benefit of a new generation of motorists we recall the salient points of the convertible.

Contrary to the indications of common sense the wind hits you in the back of the neck, not on the brow. This obtains whether you are going backwards or forwards. It blows the hair over the eyes. If the hair is worn at the sides length it is necessary to carry a McEnroe fillet or smooch in the glove compartment.

In winter a top coat should be worn. There is no known method of sealing a convertible against draughts; nor, eventually, against water. Sooner or later an umbrella becomes part of the standard equipment.

The back seat is the best place on a hot day. It cannot be recommended in other conditions.

Smell is the great bonus of open-skies motoring - the smell of pine woods, blossom, showers on the dust, the early hours of a summer's night. Since no other motor vehicle smells nice, choose deserted roads.

On motorways the only lane fit for use by a convertible is the hard shoulder. Since that is out of bounds an alternative route should be found.

Motoring proper is at its best on a warm day in June where the bean fields are in flower and scented the lanes. Avoid oil seed rape.

2. Insights of modern physics.
3. Concept of field force in human functioning.
4. Holographic theory of brain storage mechanisms.
5. Systems theory and its implication for treating the individual patient.
6. Nature of healing and healing energies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Growing doubt on youth training

From the Director of Youthaid

Sir, Michael Howard's letter (August 18) about the rejected plan for Kent County Council to provide 500 Youth Training Scheme places is so misleading that those less tolerant than I would call it vexatious.

The rejected scheme proposed to take on 500 school leavers at £25 a week to learn, among other things, catering skills and gardening. In the past Kent have taken on some school leavers each year into trainee grades such as cadet cook or parks department trainee. Last year they took on 28, in 1981 it was 50.

These programmes for fully paid youngsters are now abandoned in favour of taking on more young people, but at Government not county, expense. And they will be paid only the trainee "allowance" of £25 instead of the full pay of £45.37.

A year from now, a lucky 40 of these 500 will be taken on as 17-year-old employees. But as a result few or no 17-year-olds will be taken on direct.

No wonder the trade unions involved saw this proposal as a way of reducing, not increasing, youth employment and a lengthy way of selecting 17-year-olds at public expense. And no wonder the Manpower Services Commission and board, with employers and officials of it too, backed them and rejected the scheme.

A professor of the Youth Training Scheme was called Work Experience on Employers' Premises. A survey of employers involved found that about 30 per cent were taking on Government-subsidized trainees instead of full-priced labour. The Kent experience confirms growing fears that the Youth Training Scheme will be no better.

With 300,000 places at employers' premises, that would represent 20,000 lost jobs. Hardly an "avenue of opportunity" for the unemployed.

Of course, the cancellation in Kent has caused disappointment. My niece was one let down. But Kent County Council had no right to tell the young people of the scheme before it had been approved by the MSC area board. It is Kent, not the unions, that bears the responsibility for the disappointment. And all of the disappointed youngsters will be found a place elsewhere.

I take up my pen at Youthaid officially on September 5. But already my desk is piled high with reports of serious problems with the Youth Training Scheme. None of them concerns the attitudes of the trade unions. Michael Howard should consider all the evidence before making his case. Politics really should be kept out of jobs for school leavers.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL LEWIS, Director,
Youthaid,
9 Poland Street, WI.
August 22.

Paid jobs for all

From Professor P. R. G. Layard

Sir, Alan Eden-Green (August 3) has advocated work-sharing as a solution to the unemployment problem. The basic fallacy in this approach is that it is inflationary. Anything which reduces unemployment adds to inflationary pressure. This is true whether the extra jobs are created by expanding the demand for output, or by holding output constant and spreading the work over more people.

It may well be that we should accept a higher level of inflationary pressure - I believe that we should, while containing the pressure by an incomes policy. But the key question then is: should we expand the demand for output, or should we hold output constant and spread the work over more people. Put this way the answer seems obvious we should expand output.

The advocates of work-sharing are under the illusion that output should be taken as given, but there are millions of unused netts in our society. The only limit to expanding output is the inflationary pressure which that induces. But if work-sharing induces the same inflationary pressure it would be much better to expand output. Moreover, in practice work-sharing would be likely to reduce output by raising the real hourly cost of labour. So it is a counsel of despair based on fallacious reasoning.

It may well be that we should accept a higher level of inflationary pressure - I believe that we should, while containing the pressure by an incomes policy. But the key question then is: should we expand the demand for output, or should we hold output constant and spread the work over more people. Put this way the answer seems obvious we should expand output.

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At the grassroots

From the Right Reverend Robin Woods

Sir, "Grassroots mergers" figure in your headline story for August 16. May the hope be expressed that the merger of ordinary constituents within the Liberal and Social Democratic parties may be consistently encouraged? Nothing is more necessary, at present, to Parliament than a competent and united "her Majesty's" opposition on a truly democratic basis. This, the merger might well provide.

The lesson of "grassroot" opinion is important. Had the Church of England and the Methodists listened to it the two churches would have been united ten years ago to the now agreed immense benefits of both

Balanced view of Soviet challenge

From the Chancellor of the University of Toronto

Sir, I read your leading article, "Soviet challenge", of August 20 on my way back from the Soviet Union, where I was discussing the resumption of academic exchanges, broken off by Canada after Afghanistan and Poland.

Your article, it seems to me, is quite right when it says that "it makes little sense to spend the country's wealth on weapons of mass destruction which, as deterrents, it is hoped never to use, while simultaneously trying to economise by reducing the educational budget for Russian studies." We in Canada are guilty of the same kind of false economy, only we do it ourselves by cutting our students of Russia off from the benefit of exchanges, which the USA, together with others, are perceived as self-defeating.

But if we are to arrive at a "realistic assessment of Moscow's policies" as a "first step towards organizing a coherent defence", then, it seems to me, we would be ill-advised to focus on those well-known attributes of an autocratic society like spying, repression and propaganda emphasizing antagonism rather than any possibilities of mutual cooperation in the common interest. Nothing so legitimizes militarism in the Soviet Union as the constantly reproduced threats from the outside world and sustained antagonism, which is seldom followed by coherent policies or action.

The Soviet system has many problems on the agenda requiring cooperation rather than confrontation, such as persistent nationalism, feelings among its scores of ethnic minorities, the need for foreign trade and investment and falling productivity. If our differences are not susceptible to resolution by weapons of mass destruction, the Alliance should seriously consider organizing a "coherent defence" by means alternative to the present escalation of nuclear blackmail and antagonism.

Is not another "wise man" exercise on non-military cooperation long overdue in Nato? (Pearson-Lange and Marzino, 1958). Yours truly,
GEORGE IGNATIEFF, Chancellor,
University of Toronto,
Toronto,
Ontario,
Canada
August 21.

From Mr Brian Thomas
Sir, As one who has, on some 14 occasions since 1968, put forward in your columns a few of the arguments you now choose to denounce, may I be permitted to examine one or two of your propositions.

To begin where you did on August 18 (leading article), the fact that both Mao and Tito saw Soviet foreign policy in terms of a "quest for world

bodies. Had grassroot conviction between Anglicans and Roman Catholics followed after the happy and significant papal visit, we should already be enjoying some fruits of Christian unity.

As it is, the political unity of Liberals and Social Democrats and the religious unity of Anglicans and others is postponed indefinitely because the leaders in each case can't agree. How long is this impasse in the common life of our community to go on? When will leaders in both state and church learn the lesson?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN WOODS,
Torre End House,
Tisbury,
Wiltshire,
England
August 16.

in fact describing, he could not have been referring to the Castelarizzio attack, and I should like to apologize unreservedly to all those who took part in it, for the distress caused to them by an inaccurate identification.

I should add that the second in command of the Commandos at Castelarizzio, Major (now Colonel) Stephen Rose, and both company commanders - Captain (now Colonel) Michael Borwick and the late Captain Kenneth Hermon - were mentioned in despatches for their services during the battle, and that their unit subsequently played a gallant part in the evacuation of Crete, being finally left behind on Crete to become prisoners-of-war for four and a half years.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN GILBERT,
Merton College, Oxford.
August 19.

Heisenberg in 1922 demonstrated the impossibility of such an ideal, and yet the scene of Western medical thinking is still the "double blind controlled study". Medical scientists need to take board what has been apparent to many of their colleagues - "experiments never really existed" and "consciousness matters".

The British Holistic Medical Association is holding its launching conference on September 24-25. We hope to provide a forum for further discussion of these crucial issues and create an opportunity for a serious and systematic attempt to bring about a marriage of old and new approaches to healing. We have taken as our motto "Physician heal thyself" and hope to begin to redress the imbalance and current dis-ease in British medicine.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK C. PIETRONI (Senior
Lecturer in General Practice, St
Mary's Hospital Medical School,
Chairman-elect,
The British Holistic Medical
Association,
23 Harley Street,
Marylebone Road, NW1.
August 15.

Across the Atlantic, as so often, they are in the lead here. The "Orange Juice" button on the refreshment dispenser in my Cleveland, Ohio, hotel room, produced a can labelled "Imitation Citrus-Flavoured Artificially-Sweetened Dietary Carbonated Beverage".

At least the American palate knows what it's getting.

Yours sincerely,
BASIL BOOTHROYD,
Peelers,
Church Street,
Cuckfield,
Sussex.
August 22.

Bracken-spraying on Dartmoor

From Lady Sayer

Sir, A valuable report prepared for the Council for National Parks by Dr Ian Brotherton, of Sheffield University, reveals the increasing strength of agricultural representation on national park boards and committees: this representation has risen by 50 per cent since 1979, mainly for political reasons. The result is disastrous for many national parks, including Dartmoor. At its meeting on July 28 the Dartmoor National Park Committee accepted the recommendation of one of its subcommittees consisting of five members, four of them farming representatives, to raise no objection to the spraying by helicopter of a toxic bracken-killer on a large area of open common, Hayne Down, on eastern Dartmoor, an area much visited by family parties on account of its famous rock stack, Bowman's Nose, and the views from the top above it. An unfenced road and public bridleway traverse the common, and people enjoy walking, riding and picnicking everywhere on this land.

Toxic spraying on private enclosed fields may be one such operation on open access moorland, followed by lime-spreading, are surely quite another. The park officials admit that the public will have to be chased off the down "before, during, and in the week following bracken-spraying operations" and that "it would not be advisable to eat berries from the down"; after the associated liming, "berry would suffer and so would the small amount of heather... the botanical interest of wet areas might be reduced and taints adversely affected".

This kind of situation will continue and worsen while farming interests are allowed to dictate policy in our national parks. Yours faithfully,
SYLVIA SAYER,
Cator,
Widecombe-in-the-Moor,
Devon.

Refugees' contribution

From Mr Bernard Denyer

Sir, The second leader in your issue of August 20 was a worthy and finely expressed tribute to a man of great grit and distinction. Nikolaus Pevsner is dead, and his death has diminished all of us, though his legacy remains for our detection.

He was one of a large number of men and women who, coming to Britain as refugees in the 1930s, have made a contribution to British life and culture comparable to, but far greater than, that of the Huguenots in the seventeenth century.

Overcoming enormous obstacles, not all of which ceased to exist when they left Germany, they displayed immense courage, intellectual energy of the highest order, and a deep sense of moral probity. Yet no serious attempt has been made, either in books, on television or on radio, to assess this phenomenon as a coherent whole, to chronicle it in an accessible format, nor to record the personal reactions of those who participated in it.

The death of Sir Nikolaus is a cogent reminder that it will soon be too late to achieve at least one part of such an undertaking.

Yours etc.,
BERNARD DENYER,
85 Knatchbull Road, SES.

Truth in advertising

From Mr Basil Boothroyd

Sir, Your correspondent (August 20) reporting 10 proclaimed chemical additives in iced bun is right to infer that the British palate has become blunted.

It's too late to do anything about that now, but he quotes the mystery ingredients in coded form, meaningless to the lay consumer. We don't even know what's doing the blunting.

Across the Atlantic, as so often, they are in the lead here. The "Orange Juice" button on the refreshment dispenser in my Cleveland, Ohio, hotel room, produced a can labelled "Imitation Citrus-Flavoured Artificially-Sweetened Dietary Carbonated Beverage".



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE

August 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Orkney, and in the morning visited the Pier Arts Centre at Stromness.

In the afternoon, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother inaugurated the new lighting system and attended a Service of Dedication in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall.

Her Majesty travelled in an Aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Ruth Lady Fermoy and Sir Martin Gillian were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE: August 24: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this afternoon opened the "The Royal Housing Association's Elderly Persons Ground Dwelling at Park Farm, Moreton, Swindon, where Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Wiltshire (Colonel Hugh Brasye).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips escorted by the Vice-Chairman, Thamehouse Housing Association (Mrs B. Brettell) toured the Sheltered Development and the Disabled Persons Unit where Her Royal Highness unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. C. Coombs and Miss L. M. Findlay

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr G. R. V. Coombs, of Puerto Pollensa, Majorca, and of Mrs H. M. Coombs, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and Lucinda, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Anthony Findlay, of Colgate House, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Mr J. M. Fellowes and Miss J. C. Cleary

The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mrs M. E. Fellowes, of Penarth, South Glamorgan, and Julia, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J. F. Cleary, of Lower Hardres, Canterbury, Kent.

Captain N. J. Foster and Miss B. Shanks

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, son of Mr E. J. Mordaunt and the late Mrs A. Mordaunt, and Jenny, youngest daughter of the late Colonel J. A. M. Rice-Evans and Dr E. I. Rice-Evans, of Dan-y-Castell, Crickhowell, Powys.

Mr K. Peake and Miss A. V. P. Deuchar

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, son of Mr Kenneth Peacock of Pentylford, North Wales, and Virginia, daughter of the late Professor the Hon. Alastair Buchan, and Mrs Buchan, of Brill, Buckinghamshire. The marriage will take place in New York, in September.

Mr J. D. M. Slessor and Miss A. F. Forrest

The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Mr and Mrs D. J. C. Slessor, of Brightling, Sussex, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Parrott, of Whetstone, Buckinghamshire.

RAF Church of St Clement Danes

The Ministry of Defence announces that a service of thanksgiving will be held at 11.00 am on Sunday, October 23, to mark the 25th anniversary of the re-consecration of St Clement Danes Church, Strand, WC2, as the central church of the Royal Air Force.

Past members of the Royal Air Force and its reserve forces are invited to apply for tickets in writing enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Ministry of Defence, 310(a), Room 601, Admiralty House, Teddington Road, SW1X 8RU, by no later than September 28. In the event of emergency demand tickets will be allocated by ballot.

Tickets will be issued (and any unsuccessful applicants advised) 7-10 days before the service.

Applications should not be sent to St Clement Danes.

Birthdays today

Air Marshal Sir Michael Armitage, 53; Mr Leonard Bernstein, 65; Mr Sean Connery, 53; Mr Frederick Forsyth, 43; Mr Andrew Gardner, 51; Lord McGregor of Dalmunzie, 62; Mr Brian Moore, 52; Mr Bryan Mosley, 52; Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Redman, 84; Sir Graham Rowlands, 75; Sir Thomas Shankland, 78; Dr Paul Steinatz, 74; Mrs M. S. Tremam, 64.

Divorce for judge

Mr Justice Marill, who sits in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court was granted a decree nisi in an uncontested suit in the London Divorce Court yesterday ending his marriage of 23 years.

Luncheon

H.M. Government: Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at Coulton Gardens in honour of the Ambassador of the Ivory Coast.

HAWKINS AND TIPSON plc

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Plc as Registrar.

All documents for registration and correspondence should in future be sent to the address below:

Company Secretary
G.H. TAYLOR



Lloyds Bank Plc,
Registrar's Department,
Goring-by-Sea,
Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.
Telephone: Worthing 502541
(STD code 0903)



Mrs Alice Angell Everard with the Nobel Peace Prize gold medal awarded to her great-uncle, Sir Norman Angell, the Labour MP and distinguished writer, in 1933. Yesterday she presented the medal on long loan to the Imperial War Museum, London. (Photograph: John Manning).

Move to weed out indifferent colleges and crammers

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The formal decision to establish the new council is expected on September 16 when representatives of a number of public bodies will meet. They include the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the Committees of Directors of Polytechnics, the Council for National Academic Awards, the Society of Education Officers, the British Council, the United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs and the Royal Society of Arts.

The new body, to be called the British Accreditation Council, is the outcome of two years' work on the part of a group set up by the British Council and chaired by Mr Brian Vale. It reflects the growing concern about fly-by-night operators who charge high fees and offer indifferent education.

Since 1978, when the Department of Education and Science stopped regular full inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate, private tutorial colleges have been unable to show that they are recognized as efficient by an authoritative body. It is intended that the new council would work in the same way as the inspectors used to.

The new council is likely to use former HMIs to carry out its inspections, which will be paid for by the colleges undergoing inspection. After the decision on September 16 to

establish the council, there will be wide consultation with colleges.

It is expected that a college will either be able to apply for accreditation with the council or that an association of colleges, such as the Conference for Independent Further Education (CIFE), would have its own inspection system approved by the council.

CIFE, with 28 members, has a rigorous inspection system whereby colleges are inspected once every three years by former members of Her Majesty's Inspectorate. Its president is Lord Beloff and it has its own code of conduct.

One of the countries which has complained most bitterly about the fact that there is no inspection system for crammers is Nigeria, which claimed recently that British institutions were surviving sole on fees paid by unsuspecting Nigerians.

The new council is likely to use former HMIs to carry out its inspections, which will be paid for by the colleges undergoing inspection. After the decision on September 16 to

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Archaeology

Early Fen settlement discovered

By Our Archaeology Correspondent

Archaeologists working on the edge of the Fens near Peterborough have discovered one of the earliest settled communities known in the region. An Early Neolithic occupation has been dated to about 3,000 BC in radiocarbon years, or nearly 3,800 BC in calendar years.

The site, at Eton, near Maxey, lies only a short distance from the later neolithic causeway camp, dating to about 2,700 BC, which has been excavated over the past two years (*The Times*, November 8, 1982). The early occupations documented by the presence of plain pottery bowls of the Grimston-Yates Hill tradition, the first ceramic style known in the British Isles. It is also marked, according to Mr Francis Pryor, the director of the project, by the use of long thin blades, carefully made and by a "very substantial ditch".

Continued work on the site has resulted in the recovery of well preserved plant and animal remains from the ditches of the causewayed camp, including food residues baked on to the insides of pottery bowls.

The animal bones include those of lamb, dismembered as though the meat had been stewed or stripped from the bones before cooking, rather than roasted as a joint, and a bundle of pig ribs piled into one end of the ditch. Horn cores show that cattle were also present.

Willow rods show that coppicing was practised to obtain thin sticks of constant size, and alder and poplar seem to have been treated similarly. Thin wooden rods were used to make a variety of tools, and wooden fragments were also used to make needles, gouges and scrapers for working skin and other materials.

One of the most spectacular finds has been the substantially complete handle for a polished stone axe, some 40 cm (16 in) long, with the slot for the stone blade and a knob at the top to add extra weight. A number of axe blade fragments have also been found from distant sources, including one in the Lake District.

"There is no other waterlogged causewayed camp that I know of in Britain," Mr Pryor said. "It is a unique site; while we hoped to get 25 per cent of it dug this season, we shall be lucky to have completed the excavation of 5 per cent". Mr Pryor hopes that the present cooperation between the Department of the Environment's Fenland Project and the landowners, Tarmac Roadstone (Eastern), will continue so that more of the site can be investigated.

Carnival will be on the streets of Notting Hill, west London, again this weekend, with police officers under orders to smile and be cheerful.

Grants from the Commission for Racial Equality and the Greater London Council have given the carnival and art committee permanent premises and a small staff. Both the organizers and the police say cooperation in the run-up to the carnival has been good.

Police numbers this year will be down again on last year, when more than 11,000 officers were on the streets or in reserve for the two-day event. This year it is expected to attract over 200,000 people on Sunday and Bank holiday Monday.

The police approach to the event is much the same as before, tailoring the number of officers on the streets to the size of the crowds. Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Cracknell, who is in charge of the operation, said the police would act swiftly to deal with running

gangs of youths who in the past have swept through the crowds picking pockets and robbing.

The event, which attracts the biggest crowds on London's streets during the year, has become increasingly trouble-free in recent years although last year there was an increase in thefts and pickpocketing.

Control of the event has been moved from Scotland Yard to area level, and Deputy Assistant Commissioner Cracknell said the long-term aim was to return control to the local police commander - something the carnival committee has been urging on the police for some years.

"That will not happen in the short-term because of the sheer numbers of police and public involved," Mr Cracknell said, but it was the long-term aim.

Police yesterday repeated their annual advice to visitors not to carry shoulder bags or handbags, wear valuable jewelry or carry expensive cameras, or wallets in trouser pockets.

OBITUARY

MR P. R. C. ELLIOTT

Original research into mass communications

Mr P. R. C. Elliott, one of the leading figures in British research into journalism and mass communications in general, died on August 18. He was 40.

Elliott was a research fellow at the University of Leicester's Mass Communication Research Centre and, in spite of his relatively short career he had established an international reputation in a field he did much to create.

Philip Ross Courtney Elliott was educated at Calford School, Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich Civic College, and Worcester College, Oxford, where he read politics, philosophy and economics. Postgraduate work at Manchester University followed, where his research into the professions was to form the basis of his first book *The Sociology of the Professions*.

He joined the new Mass Communications Research Centre in 1966 and rapidly gained a reputation as an energetic and original researcher. He became especially adept at applying anthropological skills and concepts he acquired at Manchester to the study of mass media organizations and occupations; in 1972 he published *The Making of a Television Series* which has become a seminal study and a standard text for students in Britain and abroad.

Elliott brought a powerful and inventive intellect to bear on all his research. His later books and articles continued to explore the sociology of journalism and the mass media, particularly as it related to public policy and central contemporary political issues.

In 1977 he produced a report for the positive enthusiasm for life, expressed not only among his colleagues and the students whom he taught but also in his love for sailing and in his many community and local Labour Party activities.

He was devoted to his family and his tenacity and commitment in recent years owe much to the courage and support of his second wife Wendy whom he married in 1976. She survives him, as do his first wife, Sarah, and his five children.

SIR NIKOLAUS PEVSNER

Professor Peter Laslett writes:

Your very full account (August 19) of Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's achievements neverthless leaves somehow, something unsaid.

I am only one of more than one generation of students who were inspired to study the history of art by Nikolaus Pevsner's outstanding gifts as a teacher both in London at St. Bart's College and at Cambridge where no one has been able to match his impact as Slade Professor, renewed year after year for no less than seven years.

I can still remember the excitement of that first lecture he gave to a small group of us on the history of art I ever had, given to a small group of us on the evening at Birkbeck in 1945. I can even remember the content - the sculpture of the West Front of Chartres - probably rather better than many lectures I have heard since.

It was clear, it was concise and in its fertile suggestions for all that research that waited to be done, it was intellectually immensely stimulating. Once one fell under his spell, there was no other subject one could ever want to study.

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Latest Wills

Latest estates include (not, before tax paid):

Chapman, Mr Anthony Charles, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, chartered patent agent... £28,375

Geddes of Epsom, Baron, of Framfield, East Sussex, general secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers 19

THE ARTS

Holly Hill reports on the first musical hit of the Broadway season
Exotic birds in a gilded cage

La Cage aux folles
Palace, New York

La Cage aux folles may be about homosexuals, but emotionally it is the straightest new musical to open on Broadway in years. The show has the sleek polish and razzle-dazzle of recent Broadway musical hits, but unlike most of them backs the glitter with a heart full of, yet made more generous by, worldly experience.

Based upon Jean Poiret's long-running French play, which also inspired the film of the same name, Harvey Fierstein's book advances the thesis of his Tony-award-winning *Torch Song Trilogy* — that people of different sexual preferences live-and-let-live — with his distinctive voice and more disciplined craft. More than the film and, one presumes, Poiret's farce, the musical is a dual love story.

Owner and master of ceremonies of *La Cage aux folles*, at a St Tropez nightspot which features a drag show, Georges (Gene Barry) has lived happily in a homosexual marriage with his star and transvestite "wife" Albin (George Hearn). They

have raised the son of Georges's one heterosexual encounter, Jean-Michel (John Weiner), who wants to marry a girl of priggish parentage and is concerned to present a traditional family image. In the madcap scramble, variously to dematerialize, masculinize, disguise, rationalize and finally recognize Albin, the marital and parental bonds are refreshed and deepened. On its level as a Broadway musical, this *La Cage aux folles* has some of the abiding qualities of Mary Renault's *The Last of the King*.

The story is framed by scenes at *La Cage* featuring "Les Cagelles", a chorus of 10 men in drag and — just to keep the audience guessing — two women. For these extravaganzas, Theoni V. Aldredge (costumes), David Mitchell (sets) and Jules Fisher (lighting) spin their palettes with giddy abandon and come up with displays of curtains changing colour and texture at the turn of a gel and outfit ranging — in the opening number alone — from sassy capes thrown off to reveal art deco lounging pyjamas thrown off to show pink and purple sailor dresses and 12 pairs of chorine legs. In another number "Les Cagelles" are reprise in front of his girl's

garbed as exotic birds and, later, like personified daffodils got up for *Asco*.

Scenes offstage at *La Cage* and in other locales advance the action while revealing character. In "A Little More MASCARA" we watch Albin don his nightclub make-up and costume as he sings about what dressing in drag does for his self-esteem: "By rouging the other cheek ... I can cope again. There's hope again". Throughout the show, the composer-lyricist Jerry Herman writes and sensitively captures the characters and milieu. Gene Barry sings that *La Cage* "is slightly new" and a little new wave. You may dance with a girl who needs a shave".

There is no blockbuster title song from the creator of *Hello, Dolly!* and *Mame*; here Mr Herman has channelled his strengths into ballads, and he, Mr Fierstein and the director Arthur Laurents know just how to use them to broader effect. When Jean-Michel sings of his love for his girl, his heterosexual sentiments are echoed by his father's for Albin. Georges sings telling of Albin's mother-love and Jean-Michel signals his acceptance of that view in a

outraged parents. Loveliest of all is "Song on the Sand", Georges's tribute to his youthful attraction and lasting love for his partner. The show's sensational song is Albin's Act I finale, which brings the audience to its feet with the sentiment: "Your life is a sham/Until you can shout 'I am what I am'".

There are disappointments in the show. The meeting between the prospective in-laws drags until Albin jolliest everyone with a song, and the choreography by Scott Salmon is dull. The staging of the musical numbers — with chorines riding trapezes, sliding down bars, rappelling and somersaulting and can-canning — almost masks the unimaginative nature of the actual steps, but one longs in vain for even one number where dance is glorified. Among the compensations still unmentioned are the graceful voices and performances of George Hearn and Gene Barry, who delight with good humour, warmth with dignity and touch with humanity. An odd couple who could inspire the audience to rethink the whole question of who's got rhythm.

Holly Hill



Gene Barry (left) and George Hearn: delighting with humour, touching with humanity

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Seriousness imbued with all the fun of the fair**Die Zauberflöte**
Playhouse

There have been mutterings in Edinburgh about the need for the Festival to import the Hamburg State Opera's *Magic Flute* when Scottish Opera is newly possessed of a widely liked production of its own. I hope Tuesday night's performance will have settled them. For Achim Freyer's conception is as different from Jonathan Miller's as blissful idiocy is from learning, or Papageno from Sarastro, or indeed Mozart from Mozart. And this is the extraordinary thing: the same score comprehends both and sounds as much at home in Mr Freyer's circus as ever it did in Dr Miller's library.

Played on, around and underneath a tatty canvas-coloured platform, this is a production full of stunts, Sarastro, magnificently sung by Robert Lloyd as

a late substitution, is a 20-foot giant revealed behind curtains when he has to be. So much for him. Monostatos and his cronies are blue meemies with white boots and helmets. The Queen of the Night is another figure of grotesque, stationary enormity. Tamino a boy dandy who has stepped out of a silent film romance in his smart sailor suit and gym shoes.

Best of all, Papageno is a baggy-trousered clown who comes swinging in on a rope a couple of times, and who, by the simple expedient of a carrot nose, is rescued from all the usual sentimentalities. Papageno as the common man is a character who rapidly slips into the muddin. Papageno as a clown is something else: sympathy is held at bay by nuances of alarm and scorn. So at least it is in this splendid performance by Mikael Melbye, who behind his clown make-up can sing with complete and easy naturalness.

The virtues of the production, however, go further. In the first place, it

is quite simply a stunning piece of theatre. Working as his own designer, Mr Freyer takes nothing for granted and leaves his audience with never a dull moment. But that is not necessarily a positive merit: after all, he could have done the same thing with *La Traviata* or *The Flying Dutchman*. A circus presentation of *The Magic Flute*, however, seems to return it importantly to its origins in a theatre of low vulgarity, one where comedy is mixed with the crude and the dangerous.

At the same time this is a very thoughtful performance, and out of its thoughtfulness comes at the end, strangely enough, a confluence of ideas with Dr Miller. As the final paaen ends, so Tamino wakes as if from a dream. The cast and chorus have been shut behind a gauze: he realizes he is excluded, and for a moment he is ejected. But then he smiles and skips off. Thank goodness, he seems to be saying, life is not like that.

But thank goodness opera performances can be. One measure of the success of Mr Freyer's production is the extent to which it has won an individual enthusiasm and corporate zip from the cast: everyone appears relaxed and released to give of his or her best, while the ensemble work is as tight as circus demands. Rüdiger Wöhlers as Tamino who is strong, young and direct, and needs no frills. Helen Donath as Pamina similarly avoids giving star turns, though perhaps this is achieved as much by her unpleasant costume, making her look like Snow White's step-mother, as by her vocal straightforwardness.

There are also resourceful trios of ladies and boys, and the opera is conducted with seriousness but no hint of pomposity by Christoph von Dohnányi. It will all be set in motion again tonight and on Saturday.

Paul Griffiths

Sei after Holmes's disappearance into the Reichenbach Falls, it introduces Watson as a lonely widower paying an elegiac trip to 221B for a last look round the old place, which is now up for sale.

Nigel Stock shuffles in proprietorially, removes the dust sheet from his favourite chair and relaxes amid the familiar clutter of Pamela Howard's set. Memories drift back as he scans *The Times* obituary, and before long he is inspecting Holmes's chemical table, fondling the Stradivarius and uncovering an Action Man-like replica of his old friend, seated at his desk. And, as he reminiscences on Holmes's educational shortcomings and tendency to brag,

Watson also starts taking on a new role as the Baker Street housekeeper and Lestrade of the Yard; and it says much for his technique that Watson remains clearly in view throughout these transformations.

At this point the play hits a rock. It starts with the shared game of treating Holmes and Watson as real people with real biographies and leads you to expect a memory play. But, once the opening flourishes are over, there is nothing for memory to feed on but fiction.

Thus, with an audible gear-change, Mr Read moves from a study of their characters into a series of thumbnail re-enactments of their adventures. Doorbells ring, issuing in invisible visitors. Mr Stock gets busy turning himself into a

Spanish beauty. A Scottish housekeeper and Lestrade of the Yard; and it says much for his technique that Watson remains clearly in view throughout these transformations.

The fatal ventilator lights up for "The Speckled Band"; the whole set goes into an illuminated downpour for Holmes's tryst with Moriarty, and Mr Stock is fitfully seen circling the stage with a dark lantern, and climbing over the furniture in his escape from the Hampstead burglary.

If there is any actor alive who could pull it off, Mr Stock is the man; but, apart from the indestructible appeal of the stories themselves, the enter-

priest where the formula is merely knees bend, arm out, expression eyes up.

Robbins's skill as a showman is more in evidence during the solos, duets and one trio, a flirtation polka for Andersen with two enchanting young women, Antonia Franceschi and Melinda Roy. Heather Watts has the best of the choreography, a solo like a muted version of the one made for Violetta Verdy in *Dances at a Gathering* but mentioning that earlier, greater example of Robbins's way with piano music only draws attention to a dependence on heavy emoting or bold final flourishes to grab applause in the present work.

Both those new works come from New York City Ballet's 1981 Tchaikovsky Festival, and the evening's final work is a legacy of their 1972 Stravinsky Festival, *Symphony in Three Movements*. In this, Balanchine's choreography gives the soloists heads, twisted movements to match the score, and sets a large corps de ballet swirling around them in great circles.

What a pity it is that so many of the expensive seats at Covent Garden, being at or below stage level, hide the marvellous floor patterns. During this season, patrons in the balcony or amphitheatre definitely have best view. Still, the splendid dancing can be enjoyed from any angle, as also the musical performances (Robert Irving again conducting, and Jerry Zimmerman as the solo pianist).

John Percival



Scintillating ease: Suzanne Farrell and Ib Andersen in *Mozartiana*

the stage from start to finish of his music, to irresistibly joyous effect.

The longest section, the Theme and Variations, brings back Farrell, joined by the company's latest Danish star, Ib Andersen, for a duet followed by several solos apiece, an ensemble bringing in the four tall young women who have previously danced a pretty Menuet, and another duet to finish. This sequence is full of the most amazing invention,

swift and playful, which the two principals perform with scintillating ease and gaiety.

Andersen is featured also in several entries in the other new work, *Piano Pieces*, and, although Jerome Robbins's choreography makes effective use of his speed, lightness, and gift for intricate movement, it suffers by seeming just more of the same. Also, Robbins's work is an anthology of tiny cameos, or too tritely simple, for instance another piece of

lent a heightened intimacy to the mask of jollity slips, although a trumpet quotation of "Wiener Blut" implies that contemporary music's normally compulsorily unhappy ending might almost be avoided.

The London Sinfonietta is relatively small, yet Emanuel Ax, the soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto, K453, dominated less than might have been expected. His evident full membership of the ensemble

peared to darken this score's romantic introspection. Its continuous outpourings, which give rise to a Carinthian folksong as well as a Bachchorale, were shaped with the finest discrimination by Young Uck Kim, the soloist, and the whole Sinfonietta. This interpretation was a fine achievement in the midst of a busy period.

The concert's novelty was Oliver Knussen's *Music for a*

South Bank Summer Music

Sinfonietta/Rattle
Queen Elizabeth Hall

H. K. Gruber's *Charivari* is described as "an Austrian journal for orchestra", and it might have provided a pleasingly irreverent start. The performance under Simon Rattle was lively enough, but the piece's basic material, the main phrase of Strauss's "Perpetuum Mobile", is, of course, scarcely

worthy of reverence. Eventually the mask of jollity slips, although a trumpet quotation of "Wiener Blut" implies that contemporary music's normally compulsorily unhappy ending might almost be avoided.

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Puppet Court, which had its first performance. Subtitled "puzzle pieces for two chamber orchestras", this derives from puzzle canons by the sixteenth-century British composer John Dowland, and at first evokes that distant period. Soon, however, a resourcefully discontinuous, even humorous, antiphonal use is being made of the quite differently instrumented pair of orchestras.

Max Harrison

Television

Effective touch of affection

"I am a toucher", said Sister Antonia Brenner, explaining

that everyone needed the odd pat. The sister, walking round the Mexican jail she has taken under her wing for the last five years, was as good as her word

and even have them stay a

while, believing that being locked away from society was punishment enough.

He brought in Sister Brenner

to help. The prisoners move

around freely, working or not,

as they choose. The matronly

Sister Brenner regards all as her

children and her affectionate

techniques and the governor's

liberalism seem to work. Over

the years, the number of

prisoners returning has diminis

hed. A plastic surgeon visits

the prison regularly to remove

unightly scars and tattoos so

that prisoners can face the

world looking as well as feeling

different. The sister, he

explained, had roped him in over a

Christmas.

This intrusion prevented Dr

Stoppard from making the most

of her scoop and explaining, for

instance, how Sister Brenner —

who it appears had an earlier

career as a wife and mother of

six — came to her present

vocation.

Dennis Hackett

Promenade Concert

BBCSO/Wand

Albert Hall/Radio 3

The German conductor Günter Wand on Tuesday made one of his extremely rare appearances as chief guest conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

The rediscovery here of this remarkable musician, now over 70, will be a major benefit to the orchestra if he can be persuaded to give more concerts as cogent and impressive as this one.

White-haired, slightly hunched, Wand moved little during the Mozart "Posthorn" Serenade which filled the first half of the concert. But his body gently swayed with the rhythms, his baton crisply marked out a supple but firm pulse and the smallest whisk of the left hand had a galvanizing effect.

This was illuminating to watch that I fear I may have heard the performance Wand was conducting rather than the one the players played. Though there were some wiry string passages which obscured, the wind had an excellent evening, particularly in the two *concertante* movements in the middle which feature pairs of oboes, flutes and bassoons: to hear such amiable music so beautifully turned was a pleasure.

Both those new works come from New York City Ballet's 1981 Tchaikovsky Festival, and the evening's final work is a legacy of their 1972 Stravinsky Festival. In this, Balanchine's choreography gives the soloists heads, twisted movements to match the score, and sets a large corps de ballet swirling around them in great circles.

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John Percival

which even the surprisingly mellifluous chortling of the posthorn itself in the second

movement, magnificently sus

taining the tension, another

long rallentando at the end of

the third movement and — most

electrifying — a fast movement

Allegro which simply and

IMI

for building products, heat exchange,
drinks dispense, fluid power,
special-purpose valves, general
engineering, refined and wrought metals.
IMI plc, Birmingham, England

MARKET REPORT

Shareholders fear 1984

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Aug. 16. Dealings end, Sept. 2. Contango Day, Sept. 5. Settlement Day, Sept. 12.

Forecasts of a 7 1/2 per cent inflation rate by the end of next year and gloomy prognosis for the economy by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research contributed to the stock market's downward spiral yesterday.

Although not as sharp as Tuesday's fall was enough to prevent buyers re-entering the market. By the close prices had begun to come off the bottom but demand was slight. The FT 30 index had been nine points down at lunch, but managed to regain some ground to show a 7.4 fall by the close at 716.6.

The trade figures made little impression on the market where gilt-edged stocks recorded losses of £3.8. Index-linked stocks bucked the trend showing gains of £1.2 making a two-day surge of more than £1. The main reason was a steady buyer probably balancing a portfolio, dealers said.

Fear of higher inflation rates are likely to add to the index-linked stocks' attraction. The sector presently offers real returns over inflation of 3 per cent at the short-end to four per cent at the long.

Nevertheless, gilt analysts

were holding to their support of fixed interest stock. They feel the Government is likely to begin nudging interest rates down again soon to help maintain the tentative economic recovery it claims is

also supported the price. IBEPCC, down 4p at 106p, has extended the closing date until Friday. It needs only another 250,000 Waddington shares to give it control. Institutional shareholders reaffirmed their rejection of the offer.

Burton Stores eased 9p to 322p in a weaker sector despite rumours of Burton's attempting an acquisition of the Richard Shops and John Collier chain from Hansa Trust.

Advance Services, the cleaning group, held its 3p peak on hope that BET would buy-out the minority interests it does not already own. The managing director of Bet, Mr Nicholas Wills, discounted the idea saying his company would not be bidding. The run-up to 310p in the shares of Brown Shipley, the banker, resulted from Duncan Lawrie Investments upping its stake to 10.15 per cent with the acquisition of another 80,000 shares.

The well presssed bumper profits from Hawley Group

gave speculators the opportunity to take profits, which eased the shares back 3 1/2p to 175p.

After receiving denials last week of any major share sales by its major investors ID & S Rivkin yesterday received news that the opposite had taken place and that both Mike Sagman and Imperial Pension Fund had halved their interests. Rivkin shares held at 75p.

House of Fraser fell 4p to 228p on news of the investigation into Fraser shareholdings and Lowe's influence on the Harrods store owner.

Pritchard Services slipped another 4p to 134p following Tuesday's news of a rights issue and Spring Grove takeover. Remitki fell 7p to 129p despite their better profits.

A single buyer came back into the market for cosmetics group Bellair yesterday pushing the price back up to 580p, an 80p rise.

Insurance retreated 5p to 12p with Pearl 5p lower at 702p after its profit figures. Disappointment over Standard Chartered profits knocked the shares back 12p to 462p.

Wayne Lintott

5p to 60p and Cape Industries 7p lower at 150p.

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**Investment
and
Finance**
**City Editor
Anthony Hilton**

THE TIMES

CITY OFFICE
 200 Gray's Inn Road
 London WC1X 8EZ
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 716.8 down 7.4
 FT Gilt 79.63 down 0.4
 FT All Share: 454.52 down 4.55
 Bargains: 19,160
 Datastream USM Leaders
 Index 29.27 down 0.66
 New York Dow Jones
 Average: 1194.11 up 1.22
 Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index 9139.73 up 50.15
 Hongkong Hang Seng
 Index 928.18 down 10.98
 Amsterdam: 149.5, down 2.0
 Sydney: ASX Index 708.4 up 14
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank
 Index 936.50 down 0.70
 Brussels: General Index
 133.87 down 0.29
 Paris: CAC Index 137.4 up 0.4
 Zurich: SKA General 285.7 down 2.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5190 down 1 cent
 Index 85.8 down 0.1
 DM 4.01 down 0.0150
 Ff 12.075 up 0.0375
 Yen 370.25 down 1.76
 Dollar
 Index 127.5 up 0.3
 DM 2.6350
 NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling \$1.5220
 INTERNATIONAL
 ECUS 0.568400
 SDN 20.030488

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9½%
 Finance houses base rate 10%
 Discount market loans 10%
 fixed 9½%
 3 month interbank 9½%
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 9½%
 10½%
 3 month DM 5½%
 3 month Fr 15-14½%
 US rates:
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 9
 Treasury long bond 104 5/32 -
 104 9/32
 ECBD Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period July 6 to August
 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.988 per
 cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 \$423.75 pm \$424.
 close \$423.50-424.25 (227.75-
 279.25)
 New York latest: \$424.
 Krugerrand (per coin):
 \$436.25-437.75 (2267.25-
 288.25)
 Sovereigns* (new):
 \$99.5-100.5 (265.5-266.25)
 *Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims Bath and Portland (amended), BBA, Bensons Crisps, Blue Circle Inds., Britoil, BSR, Carpets Int'l, Greenwich Cable Communications, Highlands and Lowlands, House Property Co. of London, Lec Refrigeration, Needlers, Refuge Assurance, Scottish Agricultural, Scottish Inv. Tst. (third quarter), Yorkshire Chemicals.
 Finals: Dale Electrical, Hamptons Tst., Immediate Business Systems, Moran Tea Holdings, New Darien Oil Tst., J. Davaille Gordon, Zambia Copper.
 Economic statistics: Over-time and short-time working (June), Energy trends (June). Unemployment and unfilled vacancies (July-final). Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (July-Provisional). Employment in the production industries (June-Provisional).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Delmar Group, Manor Royal, Crawley, W. Sussex (10.00)
 Electric & General Investment, 26 Finsbury Square, EC2 (12.30)

Gordon & Gotch, New Gotch House, 32-38 Scruton Street, EC2 (10.30)
 Hazelwood Foods, Empire Works, Rowditch, Derby (noon)

James Latham, Lesside Wharf, Clapton, E5 (2.30)

F. H. Lloyd, Albany Hotel, Smallbrook, Queensway, Birmingham (noon)

London & Manchester Securities, Britannia Hotel, W1 (10.00)
 A. Monk & Co., Green Lane, Padgate, Warrington (3.00)

Ocean Wilsons (Holdings), Great Eastern Hotel, EC2 (3.00)
 Tops Estates, Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds (noon)

Whittington Engineering, South Street North, New Whittington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire (noon)

John Brown is in urgent need of a capital reconstruction now that the proposed deal with Hawker Siddeley is off. But banks and institutions are fairly disenchanted with recent events and seem as uncertain about which way to turn as John Brown's management.

Changes to accounts pave way for part-privatization

British Nuclear Fuels sell-off in sight, says chairman

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British Nuclear Fuels the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, could be a candidate for partial privatization in two years, Mr Con Allday, the chairman, said yesterday.

Speaking after BNFL had announced a £20.1m increase in pretax profits, Mr Allday said that the company's directors were in favour of the introduction of private capital into the company's operations - and this was in sight for the first time.

Although an Act of Parliament requires the state to maintain a majority holding in BNFL, because of the sensitive nature of its nuclear activities, the Government is actively considering offering up to 49 per cent of the company to the private sector.

One long-standing obstacle to this course had been uncertainty about who would have to pick up the bill for decommissioning and other costs incurred on waste disposal contracts which BNFL inherited from other government agencies when it was incorporated in 1971.

This was resolved last month when Whitehall agreed to split the costs between the Ministry of Defence, the

Atomic Energy Authority and other bodies. As a result, for the first time BNFL's accounts have not been qualified by its accountants.

"As a board of directors we would welcome the introduction of private capital," Mr Allday said. "I would hope that in a year or two we would be in a position for the Government to go ahead with it."

The report and accounts show that, while BNFL still has substantial debt and deferred liabilities on its balance sheet, the profitability of its business has been increasing sharply.

Last year it reported pretax profits of £54.6m, against £34.5m the year before, the profit was struck on sales of £457.5m. Dividend payments to the Government were trebled to £12m.

Exports were up by £24m to £19.5m, having doubled in the past three years. BNFL says it has export orders on its books of £2,700m, and enough business to keep it occupied until 2000.

Mr Allday said that £2,000m of its export orders were for transport and reprocessing of fuel at its new Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP) at Sellafield, near Windscale in Cumbria, which is due on stream in 1990.

Most of the orders come from Japan under a controversial but lucrative contract which figured largely in the Windscale public inquiry some years ago. Another £500m worth of orders are for fuel enrichment.

BNFL is planning to allocate about £3,300m for capital expenditure over the next decade, the bulk of it on the Sellafield reprocessing plant. Expenditure is expected to peak in 1986-7, Mr Allday said.

The company is planning to cut its workforce by 15 per cent from the peak manning levels envisaged two years ago in an effort to streamline operations. It had 15,700 employees at the end of March.

Mr Allday said in his chairman's statement that no serious nuclear incident or accident occurred in any of BNFL's works during the year. The average annual radiation exposure of its workers was less than 0.5 rem, less than a tenth of the regulatory limit. Despite this record, however, there was still a "determined vocal minority" opposed to the nuclear industry, which received disproportionate publicity and encouragement from the media.

The balance sheet shows BNFL had £145m of shareholders' funds against debts of £52.7m, deferred liabilities of £327.7m and government grants (treated as credits) of £89.1m.

In the past Whitehall has taken the view that, even if the political will was there, the problem of capital structure and the pre-1971 liabilities would push BNFL down the list of privatization candidates.

But with the Chancellor committed to stepping up the tempo of his privatization programme, BNFL might now come into the running.

If a business as sensitive as this could have private sector capital injected, there would scarcely be any part of the productive public sector immune from the possibility of privatization.

The Royal Ordnance factories have already been earmarked and there are signs that the experience of the past few years has convinced ministers that they must take a more determined approach to apparently difficult problems if they are to achieve faster progress in moving businesses to the private sector.

Lessons of oil, Page 17

City Editor's Comment

Britain's problem of baton-passing

It is one of the oldest clichés in the Treasury's canon that not too much should be read into 1 month's trade figures. The same applies to a lesser extent to a single quarter. But without extrapolating trends to awful conclusions, the weakness of British exports and the strength of imports does point up the forecasters' current dilemma - whether the UK economy will be able to sustain its recovery.

The figures clearly reflect Britain's early start in the European recovery league, spurred by consumer boom at least until the summer. It is far more problematical to conclude that British manufacturers have been slow to respond, that they might be so preoccupied with cutting back to achieve statistical productivity gains that they are not really interested in banking on growth. Yet that is the crux of the recovery question.

As the latest commentary from Glasgow's Fraser of Allander Institute points out, the two main engines of our upturn so far - consumer spending and rebuilding of stocks - "have already probably made the bulk of their contribution to the present recovery". We might even add house purchase to that list.

The consumer boom will

petrify because inflation is beginning to catch up with earnings and squeeze real disposable incomes and because the savings ratio seems likely to stop falling. Stocks have now come back to their conventional relationship with output.

Soon we shall be looking for that mysterious transition from cyclical recovery into sustained growth - a process particularly mysterious in Britain because it has so often failed to take place. This is usually seen as industry taking up the baton, using its competitive edge to sell more exports and its enhanced profits and prospects to invest in expansion.

The National Institute's latest pronouncements stick to their view that, sadly, this will not happen. Logically, therefore, they point to growth falling back from this year's likely 2.5 per cent to 1.5 per cent.

Investors Notebook, page 16

London Brick opts out of Ibstock bid

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick has decided not to renew its bid for the smaller brickmaker, Ibstock. Johnson, of Leicester, despite clearance from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last week.

The company made its decision after having a £52m offer turned down by the Ibstock directors, it emerged yesterday.

London Brick approached Ibstock chairman, Mr Paul Hyde-Thomson, at the end of last week with a bid of two shares and at least 15p in cash for every one Ibstock share.

This would have put a value of over 180p on each Ibstock share. The London Brick chairman, Mr Jeremy Rose, had described Ibstock only days previously as looking "expensive" at 160p a share.

Mr Hyde-Thomson and two

other Ibstock directors were also offered positions on the London Brick board as part of the total offer, which was dependent on confirmation that Ibstock's 1983 profits would exceed £6m.

But Ibstock, which has experienced a dramatic change in trading fortunes since agreeing last December to a bid worth £28m from London Brick, thought the new terms were unacceptable, it was not prepared to negotiate further on the possibility of raising slightly the cash element in the new offer.

Mr Rose said last night: "We went as high with our new offer as was prudent. We decided not to indulge in a contested bid because we would not have got the type of merger we had been looking for last December."

Boots set for US trading

By Jonathan Clark

Boots is poised to become the latest British company to be traded in the US in the form of American Depository Receipts (ADRs).

A small market has been created by Irvine Trust and Citibank but Morgan Guaranty, the biggest issuer of ADRs with about half the total market, has decided to deal in Boots' ADRs.

The receipts are bought by investors from banks which hold

The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects, and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein, whether of fact or of opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

No application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary shares of the Company in the Unlisted Securities Market or for these securities to be admitted to listing. The Ordinary shares of the Company will be traded on an over-the-counter market conducted by Afcor Investments Limited and other companies licenced to deal in securities.

These securities are speculative and the risks associated with their purchase are described in the full offer document.

Memcom International Holdings Plc

(Registered in England No. 1731539)

Offer for Sale of

1,920,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each at 81p per share

by AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED

SHARE CAPITAL

Issued and
to be issued
fully paid
£465,000

465,000 of the authorised but unissued Ordinary shares of the Company have been reserved for issue on the exercise of warrants and options outstanding.

The Directors are aware that firm applications will be made for 600,000 Ordinary shares which will be allotted in full.

Memcom is now one of the leading companies capable of designing, supplying, implementing and servicing Electronic Filing Systems, a key area in the development of integrated office automation systems. Memcom's services range from providing advice on a consultancy basis to managing turn-key projects. Memcom is also a supplier of equipment and of proprietary software programmes.

As a result of new signed contracts awarded to the Group, many in the Middle East, and the consequently increased size of its current orders, the Group requires working capital substantially in excess of that presently available to it and an enlarged equity base which is the reason for this issue.

The Directors consider that, taking into account the net proceeds of this issue, which are estimated to amount to £1.3 million, the Group will have sufficient working capital for its present requirements.

It is the Directors' present intention to seek permission for the Company's shares to be dealt in on the Unlisted Securities Market in six to twelve months time. In the meantime, the Company's shares will be traded on an over-the-counter market conducted by Afcor and other companies licenced to deal in securities.

For the year ending 30 April, 1984, profits before taxation are forecast at not less than £610,000 and earnings per Ordinary share at 6.30p. On a forecast dividend of 3.00p, the gross yield at the Offer price of 81p is 5.3%.

Copies of the Offer for Sale Document (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered) may be obtained from:

Afcor Investments Limited,
 Licensed Dealer in Securities,
 20 Southampton Place,
 London WC1A 2BQ

Bank of Scotland,
 New Issue Department,
 3rd Floor, Broad Street House,
 55 Old Broad Street, London EC2P 2HL

Victor of takeover battle starts selling assets

BTR puts Tilling HQ up for sale

By Philip Robinson

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

It has put Crewe House, Tilling's eighteenth century former headquarters in Mayfair, up for sale. BTR, which operates from a small office in Westminster, is believed to want £50m for the luxurious surroundings in which Tilling decisions were once taken, and the defiance of the company prepared.

Crewe House was built in 1708 by Edward Shepherd who gave his name to the nearby Shepherd Market. The house took its name from the Marquess of Crewe, the Liberal politician who bought it in 1829.

It was the scene of many Liberal Party and society functions in the early 1900s and was occupied by the Department of Propaganda in Enemy Countries during the First World War. After his appointment as British Ambassador in France, the Marquess of Crewe

returned to the house until Tilling bought it in 1937.

In the early 1960s the rear of the houses was converted into offices and flats, but it was the company's policy to preserve the facade and character of the original building.

Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

Privatization - 3: Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent, on problems facing the Government

When Mrs Thatcher first took office in 1979, Britain apparently had two state-owned oil companies, the 78-year-old commercially independent BP and the three-year-old British National Oil Corporation.

The Conservatives came to power intent on reducing their holding in BP and abolishing or at least neutering BNOC, on the familiar grounds that there was no justification for the state to be in oil, and certainly not on the interventionist lines envisaged for Mr Wedgwood Benn's BNOC.

It is one of the more peculiar ironies therefore that, four years later, the number of partly or wholly owned state oil companies has actually gone up from two to three - and from next week the Government will add a fourth to the list.

September 1 sees the birth of Enterprise Oil, a special holding company set up by the Department of Energy to manage the North Sea oil assets formerly owned by the British Gas corporation until such time as the Government decides the best way of privatizing them. The new company is recruiting management and secretaries.

In addition to this wholly-owned new baby, the Government still has 39 per cent of the shares in BP (although another 7 per cent is due to be sold this autumn), 49 per cent of British (flouted last year) and 100 per cent of BNOC, the oil trading company that the Government insisted - to some surprise - on keeping when it split off BNOC's exploration and production interests to create British.

Technically, too, the valuable Wytch Farm oil held in Dorset is still state-owned, although negotiations to sell this asset to a consortium of British oil companies are finally - after two years of opposition from its owners, British Gas - close to being concluded.

For an allegedly radical privatizing government, this state of affairs is undoubtedly bizarre - almost as surprising as the spectacle this year of such an ardent free marketeer as Mr Nigel Lawson (fresh from his skilful efforts as energy minister at bolstering world oil prices) explaining to dubious back-bench Tory MPs the virtues and necessity of having a state-owned oil trading company.

In fact, the long-running and still unfinished saga of the Government's efforts to "roll back the frontiers of the state" in the oil business illustrates perfectly many of the reasons why privatization has so far proved such an uphill - and accident-prone - struggle for Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet.

It also explains why there are many who believe that it will

Why rolling back the state frontiers is so tortuous

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor and former Minister, has shown that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth. Yet selling off British Gas's oil assets has been a slow process with the opposition of the board and its chairman, Sir Denis Cooke, right.



take three or even four terms of office before the Government - despite the present stepping up of its privatization - can finally boast of success in its efforts (as it sees them) to bring the nationalized industries to book.

Ministers' experience in the last four years with their attempts to privatize BNOC and the British Gas corporation's oil assets has underlined that shifting from the public to the private sector is a long, complex and tortuous business, it is littered with technical

'Even favoured state chiefs resisted some sell-offs'

legal and political obstacles as well as false leads and the occasional decisive intervention of external circumstances.

In BNOC's case, for example, it was the oil price rises and supply uncertainties of 1979, promoted by the Iranian revolution, that played a decisive role in persuading the Cabinet that it should keep the rump of BNOC as a state oil trading company.

It then had stuck to their original impulse to abolish BNOC altogether, selling its North Sea assets *en bloc* to BP.

It also explains why there are many who believe that it will

few now doubt that they would have saved an enormous amount of time and trouble but at the time nobody could foresee the present conditions of oil glut, falling prices and Opec

to the sale of either Wytch Farm or the North Sea assets.

Chairman, Sir Denis Cooke has repeatedly denied that the corporation is employing delaying tactics but it is evident that as an unwilling seller it has not hurried things along.

This is one reason why the Department of Energy has adopted the otherwise unlikely tactic of setting up its own oil company to hold British Gas's Gas North Sea assets. This was after ministers and officials had wasted months exploring alternative ways of privatizing the corporation, including the idea of a free hand out of BNOC bonds to all taxpayers.

At the same time it took nearly three years before officials finally found a way of sorting out the complex legal tangle of the participation agreements between BNOC and the oil companies, which were designed to give the state access to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea.

Unravelling this was a "Promethean task", according to Mr David Howell, Mr Lawson's predecessor as energy secretary, and a man whose indecisiveness is held by many to have contributed to the slow rate of progress.

With British Gas's oil assets on top of similar legal and contractual problems, the Government has had to contend with the unyielding opposition of the corporation's board

tives of introducing private capital into their operations. How far this succeeds in clearing the logjam remains to be seen.

The legislative and technical hurdles also remain, especially now that the relatively easy privatization candidates - such as Cable & Wireless which was already operated as a Companies Act company - have, by common consent, mostly been returned to the private sector

already.

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With British Gas's oil assets

on top of similar legal and contractual problems, the Government has had to contend with the unyielding opposition of the corporation's board

through Parliament again, it has still to find time for bills to privatize its second rank candidates such as the National Bus Company, the Royal Ordnance Factories and the British Airports Authority.

The more radical long-term aims favoured by some right-wing ideologues such as breaking up the coal board and the

powers to dispose of parts of BL, British Shipbuilders, British Steel and Rolls-Royce (and is pushing its British Telecom bill

through Parliament again), it

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Cricket: Essex gain momentum while Middlesex again flag

Gooch and McEwan in no mood to waste fine work of Essex bowlers

By Peter Bell

COLCHESTER: Essex with six first innings wickets in hand, lead Worcestershire by 180 runs.

Essex's charge at the top of the county championships continues to gain momentum. Yesterday the pattern of their second match of the Colchester festival week followed that of the first almost irresistibly, as they had again taken a stranglehold by the end of the first day.

Even the main characters were the same. Phillip took six wickets as he and Lever bowled unchanged to skittle Worcestershire out for 84. In the evening it was McEwan's turn as he again reached an unbeaten century, his eighth of the season, almost nonchalantly savaging the bowling in partnership with Gooch.

They ensured that the advantage their bowlers had given them would not be wasted.

Worcestershire's problems began the moment they lost the toss and were asked to bat under heavy cloud, the sultry, hazy atmosphere providing perfect conditions for the swing of Lever and Phillip, who, in their current mood, do not need much help.

Scott was dropped twice, amid much playing and missing, but just as the bowlers were beginning to adopt the somewhat aggrieved, put-upon expressions to which that possi-

ble race are prone, the breakthrough at last arrived in the twelfth over. With the score at 36 Phillip once again found the edge of McEvoy's bat and David East's gloves proved less liable than the hands of his colleagues.

That immediately dispelled any thoughts Gooch may have had of resting his strike bowlers, and Worcestershire's torment began in earnest. Three overs and five runs later the usually obdurate McEwan was bowled off his pads, offering no stroke. Another three overs and Patel, acting captain in the absence of the injured Neale, chopped a bouncing ball on to his stumps. In the same Curtis edged a four through the slips at catchable height.

They were the last runs to come off the bat for five overs, during which the heart (if it can be so described) of the batting was removed. In the nineteenth over Lever at last put the limping Scott out of his misery with a brute of a ball which pitched on middle and leg and hit the off stump.

The next over was even more destructive, in spite of another slip catch going to ground. The hapless Curtis followed suit first ball. Inshore averted the hat-trick and Weston, who had begun almost as unduly as his predecessors, at last raised the Siege a

little. But with only the tail left he had little support and he was last out, inevitably edging the ball to slip, in the second over after lunch.

When Essex's innings began it coincided exactly with the arrival of the sun. It had not come to stay beyond tea, but its arrival was symbolic as Gooch moved with assurance to his second century of the season. McEwan, who survived a lop edge to the wicketkeeper when he was 66, was even more punishing and needs only another 48 this morning to claim his 2,000 runs for the season.

SCORING: TERSHIRE: First Innings
M S McEvoy c D E East b Phillip
M S Scott b Lever
J A Ormond b Lever
R J Hinchliffe c Gooch b Phillip
T C Curtis c Gooch b Phillip
M J Weston c Hardie b Phillip
R H Neale c Hardie b Phillip
D M East c Hardie b Phillip
R M Elliott c Hardie b Phillip
S Patel c D E East b Lever
A P Patel not out
Extras (0-1, 0-2) 2

Total (5 wkt, 50 overs) 154

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-56, 2-61, 3-66, 4-69,

5-50, 6-55, 7-59, 8-62, 9-76, 10-84.

BOWLING: Lever 10-5-32-3

G A Gooch 1-0-0-0

C Gooch 1-0-0-0

S R Hardie 1-0-0-0

M J Weston 1-0-0-0

R H Neale 1-0-0-0

D M East 1-0-0-0

R M Elliott 1-0-0-0

S Patel 1-0-0-0

A P Patel not out

Extras (0-0, 0-0) 0

Total (4 wkt, 50 overs) 84

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-45, 3-228, 4-

Bonus Points: Worcs 1, Essex 7.

Umpires: C T Spencer and S Lardner.



By the left: the right-handed Gooch who hit his second 100 of the season.



By the right: the left-handed Barlow who hit his fourth 100 of the season.

Payne takes the pleasure out of the balm from Barlow's bat

By Marcus Williams

LORD'S: Middlesex have scored 243 for seven wickets against Surrey.

Middlesex's morale bruised in recent weeks by injuries, defeats and their displacement by Essex from the top of the championship table, is in much need of balm. With their score 189 for one and Barlow having reached his fourth century of the summer, it seemed shortly after 5.0 yesterday that it was on the way.

However, in the pursuit of the bonus points required to keep them in touch with rampant Essex, Middlesex lost six wickets for 45 runs, three of them in five overs of Payne's medium-paced bowlers, and in the end the day they had slipped further behind the leaders.

On a mucky morning in which 65 minutes were lost to bad light, Knight chose to field first; his decision was influenced, no doubt, by traces of damp on the pitch at the Pavilion end after recent rain and the threat of what the Middlesex bowlers might do.

In the event the pitch proved too slow for Clarke and the spinners, Pocock, Needham and Currie, scarcely turned a ball off line.

Middlesex were given an excellent start by the two left-handers, Barlow and Miller, this year's Oxford

University secretary, playing his second championship match as the injured Scott Miller looked on. They applied the finishing touch in an stand of 91 before judiciously chopping a straight ball from Needham on to his off-stump in the forty-second over.

Needham, incidentally, replaced Monkhouse, who broke a finger in the last match at Hove. Payne, unaccountably taking the new ball, was in the side for Thomas, England's latest recruit.

Barlow continued to make good progress and punished the loose ball. He had a slice of luck when 55, putting Pocock high to the Tavern rail, and Richard, after a determined catch, could only watch the ball over the boundary fence.

Because of a damaged hand, Richards spent the day in the outfield, between overs commuting many miles the length of the Mount and Tavern boundary. Stewart kept wicket.

With Radley doggedly as ever and Barlow showing increased fluency in his driving - and past 100 - Middlesex had advanced to 182 - 57 75 overs and maximum batting points were just possible.

Their hopes evaporated in the next 11 overs as five wickets tumbled for 27 runs, Radley leg-

bowled and Miller and Vassell kept wicket.

Fall of wicket: 1-56, 2-61, 3-66, 4-69, 5-50, 6-55, 7-59, 8-62, 9-76, 10-84.

Bonus Points: (no credit) Middlesex 2, Surrey 3.

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Uncertainty over teams for final Test match

England looking anxiously to Cowans and Thomas

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

There is even more uncertainty than usual about the final composition of the team for the fourth and final County Test match, which starts at Trent Bridge this morning. England, particularly, were undecided yesterday as to whether or not to play an extra batsman at the expense of a bowler.

They did so last year, also, in the last Test of the season - against Pakistan at Headingley - and it came off. On that occasion, their attack comprised Willis, Botham, Jackson Marks and Gazzing. Today, if they follow the same tack, it would be Willis, Botham, Cook, Gatting and either Cowans or Thomas. If to make Thomas one of only four specialist bowlers seems too chancey, he would at least pitch the ball so, which is more than can be expected of Cowans.

In yesterday's conditions no captain would have given his spinners so much as a second glance. It was heavily overcast, almost autumnal. The pitch was damp, too. The sun, which the groundsmen had hoped for, to dry it out, failed to appear. The ball, I imagine, would have moved all over the place.

The pitch has a fair even-covering of brown grass, unlike the outfield, which, after so many weeks without rain, is unnaturally, I am inclined to say, soft, green. The ball will be as polished at lunchtime today as at the start: the outfield and the bowlers will see to that.

New Zealand are almost

David Thomas, Surrey all rounder, has his big chance

The man to stiffen England's lower order

By Michael Field

David Thomas, the Surrey all rounder, packed his bag yesterday to join the England Test team at Trent Bridge for the fourth Test against New Zealand. At Hove earlier this week he scored a century and took six wickets against Sussex.

Thomas, aged 24, came to the fore last season after Clive Lloyd and Iman Khan, two international captains, had described him as the best young fast bowler in England. After an outstanding performance in Surrey's victory in last season's NatWest final, in which he was the man-of-the-match, he was on the shortlist for the final team to Australia. He's not selected, but still went to Australia as a whiskered schoolboy and now trained with the England team.

"Be honest," admitted Thomas, "I would have been very lucky to make the tour. It was flattering to be mentioned as a candidate but it was mainly due to the NatWest final coming at the right time".

This season Thomas has made tremendous strides as a batsman, scoring his maiden first run 100 and amassing over 800 runs, with an average of 36. After a spell in mid-season when he lost his rhythm he has regained his form with a ball-taking, nearly fifty wickets. He can

now be regarded as a genuine all-rounder who would certainly stiffen England's suspect lower order.

Thomas puts his improvement as a batsman down to Mickey Stewart, the Surrey manager. "Mickey had a go at me at the start of the season," Thomas said. "He told me my approach was wrong. I had the ability to hit the ball cleanly but was content to be a tweener man. This season the size was more consistency and concentration. I have also been given more responsibility by being higher on Sundays and in one-day games."

He quickly dismisses the suggestion that his bowling has suffered because he's been paying more attention to his batting. He feels his loss of form with the ball came at the wrong time for his England prospects when fast bowlers like Graham Dilley and Neil Foster were taking wickets at the right time.

"I didn't even think about being picked for England for the fourth Test," he confessed. "It came right out of the blue and obviously is the best thing that has happened to me."

Thomas, who was dubbed "Toddy" in his early days at Surrey because he laughs like Ted Heath, the former Prime Minister, is

Thomas: ball of fire

playing for fine weather at Nottingham. The one aspect of professional cricket he detests is rain and waiting around in dressing rooms.

CYCLING

Kopylov's star shines

From John Wilcockson
Zurich

It will depend from the outcome of both Steve Cram and the world champion, who is might as well go for the world record". His effort is reserved for next Tuesday's race in Koblenz, West Germany, where he broke Coe's mile record two years ago in the middle of their exchange of that record (in each other's absence) three times in eight days.

Coe had the final say with 3min 47.3sec, a minute and still seconds faster than the two strong supporters from Cram, Ovett and England's team manager, Andy Norman, as well as an independent promoter, that Cram would be in the same race as Ovett in Koblenz.

That will be a pity, for their sport specializes in pushing back barriers. What better way is there to do that than for the best in the world to compete in a bloodless effort rather than in the frostbitten that, perhaps understandably, has dominated major championship finals in recent years?

This is not necessarily to subscribe to the view of the independent promoters that a world record is everything. Cram's fans can only rejoice over what he has achieved in world record attempts. He did so again after his 800 metres in 1min 43.61sec in Oslo two nights ago.

Cram's time was the fastest in the world this year. The indefatigable Peter Elliott, running on Cram's tail, was also rewarded with his fastest time, 1min 43.9sec.

Cram got very annoyed after the race, when he found that in his absence from England, someone had announced that he was to break Ovett's world two-mile record at Crystal Palace next Monday. "I didn't announce it," said the man who is now the world's leading middle-distance runner.

Cram's world championship victory over Ovett, Steve said, has given him that number one spot, and given Ovett reason to surprise many commentators with his first public announcement of an attempt of a world record.

After his victory in the mile in Oslo on Tuesday night, Ovett said:

YACHTING

'Americans tried to force confession'

men as saying the Americans had sold him they were convinced the Mr Leeson, who does not have a degree in naval architecture and is largely self-taught, could not possibly have constructed and designed a fleet concept as sophisticated as the design concept devised at the heart of the boat.

Dr van Gennep was reported as saying the Americans had taken the lead to the highest levels in the Dutch Foreign Ministry. He said they had met the Ministry's director-general and had tried to force political pressure to bear in order to force the Dutch scientists to make statements about their involvement with Mr Leeson.

Stamford quoted Dr van Gennep:

"When they came to see me they made it clear in a none too subtle way that they expected me to confess that the lead had been taken by a Dutch invention. I told them 'Don't be ridiculous'. This is something I know but they didn't seem to want to believe what I said." Dr Van Gennep was quoted as saying.

He said the Americans, who included John Valentijn, the Dutch-born designer of the top-rated American 12-metre Liberty, had also gone to the Dutch National Aerospace Centre laboratories in Amsterdam. The newspaper said they confronted one of the laboratory's chief designers, Dr Hoop Stoep, with the same sort of allegations.

RACING

First flat winner for Neil Kernick

By John Carter

Despite the fact that only two of the 16 "Joyce" (favourites to win) in the 2m 10s St Leger at York yesterday obliged, few of the sensible crowd present would have disagreed that Bath was the perfect place to be yesterday. Bathed in sunshine, tempered by a cooling breeze, the shirt-sleeves, even topics (strictly non-uncle) odds-on favourite "Joyce" had some stirring performances from Pat Eddie on Bay and Kati Cox and two contrasting powerful ones from Neil Kernick and his stable.

For Eddie and, more, riding

Pat Eddie, the 10-year-old

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

8.00 *Course: All:* News digest, sport, weather and traffic reports - available to everyone with a television set, teletext or not.

8.30 *Breakfast Times:* with Nick Ross and Frank Bough. Items include: news from around the world, regional news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; Sport at 8.45, 7.45 and 8.30; *Chris Tarrant* on the Isle of Wight; *Country at Large* throughout the morning; *Competition* at 7.25 and 7.35; *Guess Who* at 8.05; *Today's TV*, at 8.35; *Mad Lizzie* at 8.50; *Rat on the Road* (in Newcastle) at 9.00.

TV-am

8.25 *Good Morning Britain:* with Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Items include news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; Sport at 8.45, 7.45 and 8.30; *Chris Tarrant* on the Isle of Wight; *Country at Large* throughout the morning; *Competition* at 7.25 and 7.35; *Guess Who* at 8.05; *Today's TV*, at 8.35; *Mad Lizzie* at 8.50; *Rat on the Road* (in Newcastle) at 9.00.

TV/LONDON

9.25 *Thames news headlines:* Followed by: *TV Street:* easy learning with The Muppets; *10.25 Science International:* Another film in this scientific research series; *10.35 Struggle Beneath the Sea:* Moulding days for the lobster; *11.05 History of the Motor Car:* developments in the 1930s; *11.25 Fantasy Fairy Tales:* cartoon - the Magic Pony; *11.35 Firemen at Work:* cowboys blaze away (r);

12.00 *Hegerty Heavyweight:* with George Cole (repeated); *4.00-12.10 Get up and Go:* with Beryl Reid and Moacan; *12.30 The Sullivans:*

1.00 *New 1.20 Thames news:* news; *1.30 Emmerdale Farm:*

2.00 A Plus: Science fiction writer Brian Aldiss is interviewed by Elaine Grand; *2.20 Funny Miles:* Episode 12 of this drama serial about show business folk in the 1930s. With Jimmy Jewel, Pamela Stephenson and veteran entertainer Elsie Randolph (r); *3.30 Survival:* Bay of Thunder (co); *The Frozen Kingdom of Alaska's Glacier Bay:*

4.00 *Children's ITV:* Hegerty Haggerty (r); *4.15 Stags:* BBC cartoon; *The Rabbit of Seville:*; *4.20 On Safari:* "Jungle" contest, with Sally James; *4.45 Home Drama Series:* set in an Australian community welfare home; *5.15 The Young Doctors:*

5.45 *News:* *6.00 Thames area news:* news; *6.25 Help Special:* A host for the mentally handicapped;

6.40 *Thames Sport:* includes an item on the United Kingdom Powerboat Grand Prix;

7.10 *I Simply Can't See:* a film about blind computer systems analyst Tony Randall, his blind wife Irene and their two partially sighted children;

7.40 *Murder, Mystery, Suspense:* Billion Dollar Threat (1979) Made-for-television adventure yarn, starring Dale Robards as the American intelligent agent who plots himself against a super criminal who plots the destruction of the Earth. Co-starring Ralph Balamy, Keenan Wynn, and Patrick Macnee; Director: Barry Shear;

9.30 *European Connections:* France, Toulouse - Anthony and Liz Gochet. A film about a former interior designer in London who, disenchanted with her career, becomes a farm near Toulouse. And that is where, with his wife, he has now found fulfillment;

10.00 *News, And Themselves:* news;

10.30 *Lou Grant:* Lou (Edward Asner) tries to find out if one of his newspaper staff was an FBI informer, 30 years ago;

11.30 *Edgar Wallace Presents: The Mephisto Mystery:* (1960) Modestly-made thriller with Maureen Swanson as the woman who, released from prison, is asked by a detective agency to spy on her new employer;

12.25 *Night Thoughts:* with Harvey Gilman, a Quaker.

Frank Barrie who stars in *Macready!* Channel 4, 10.30pm

BBC 2

8.05 *Open University (Unit 8.10): Klein's Unification of Geometry:* 5.30 Electronics: a study in design; 6.55 Health care in Mozambique; 7.20 *Meanings of Madness:* (1); 7.45 North Sea Oil: taxation;

10.30 *Play School:* Wilma Horrocks' story *The Train to Glasgow*.

4.15 *Cricket: The Fourth Test:* A transfer, from BBC1, of live coverage of the first day's play in the 26-episode serial version of the children's classic, starring Katalin Poltani (r); 5.05 John Craven's *Newswatch*; 5.15 Charlie Brown's the comic strip boy adapts well to the small screen;

5.49 *News with Moira Stuart:* 6.00 South-East at 8.25; Tom and Jerry: *Purchaser to Dream*;

6.35 *Doctor Who:* Final episode of *Kinda*, with Peter Davison (r);

6.55 *Top of the Pops:* with Mike Smith and Simon Bates. It goes out live tonight;

7.30 *Fame:* Doris and her fellow students at the New York High School for Performing Arts waste no time in trying to discover who wrote a suicide note;

8.20 *Tomorrow's World at Large:* ECT. *Karen Pendrill* reports on the use of electroconvulsive therapy as a treatment for severe depression. He follows the two-week progress of a woman who undergoes ECT, and talks to doctors who administer it and scientists who check the system after complaints that some patients have gaps in their memory after treatment;

9.00 *News:* with Nick Witchell;

9.25 *The Life and Times of David Lloyd George:* part 7 of Elaine Morgan's drama series about the "Welsh Wizard". He is accused by a general of lying to the House of Commons about recruitment to the forces. With Philip Madoc in the title role (r);

10.25 *Secrets:* First of four films investigating official secrecy in Britain. Tonight: 60-year-old Christmas cards still enveloped in the Official Secrets Act; and sealed lips about a gas explosion. With Ed Boyle;

10.55 *Cricket: The Fourth Test:* Highlights. 11.18 *News headlines:*

11.30 *Edgar Wallace Presents: The Mephisto Mystery:* (1960)

Modestly-made thriller with Maureen Swanson as the woman who, released from prison, is asked by a detective agency to spy on her new employer;

12.25 *Night Thoughts:* with Harvey Gilman, a Quaker.

CHANNEL 4

5.30 *Car 54, Where Are You?* Comedy series about two comical American police patrol officers (Joe E Ross and Fred Gwynne). Tonight: a misunderstanding over a visit to a stockbroker's office.

6.00 *Bewitched:* Darrin's boss tells Darrin that he prefers the soap-selling ideas of his sorceress-wife to his. Starring Dick York and, as the pretty Witch, Elizabeth Montgomery;

6.30 *Anything We Can Do How to Fix a Sliding Door into a Wardrobe:* and how to change the orientation of a car and fit new players into old seats;

7.00 *Channel Four News:* With news headlines at 7.30, and *Business News* at 7.35. Includes a report on the British Association conference in Brighton;

7.15 *Comedy: Open-air concert:* at Liverpool's Sefton Park, given by Nick Heyward;

7.30 *News summary:* with sub-titles for the hard of hearing;

7.55 *Distant Gun:* Fourth of six programmes in which former members of the Services look back and recall memorable moments. Tonight, Sir John Glubb (Glubb Pasha) talks about the days when, as an Army liaison officer, he helped to keep peace in the desert between camel tribesmen from Saudi Arabia and shepherd tribes living on Iraq's southern frontier (r);

7.25 *Wheels of Fine Penitulums:* film in this series about modest India. Tonight: two examples of the nation's industrial potential - Hero Cycles, in Ludhiana, and Teja, iron and bus makers, in Puna;

7.40 *Murder, Mystery, Suspense:* Billion Dollar Threat (1979) Made-for-television adventure yarn, starring Dale Robards as the American intelligent agent who plots himself against a super criminal who plots the destruction of the Earth. Co-starring Ralph Balamy, Keenan Wynn, and Patrick Macnee; Director: Barry Shear;

7.55 *Discovering Hedgerow:* David Streeter and Rosamond Richardson investigate the flora and fauna to be seen in August (r);

8.20 *Film: The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie:* (1969) Film version of the Muriel Spark novel about a Scottish teacher with a decidedly unorthodox approach to life, both in and out of school. Maggie Smith won a Hollywood Oscar for her performance in the title role; Co-starring Robert Stephens, Pamela Franklin, Gordon Jackson and Celia Johnson. Directed by Ronald Neame.

10.10 *Edinburgh International Festival: Riotous Assembly:* The comedy actor Victor Spinetti, who is appearing in his own show at this year's festival, reports on some of the other pleasures awaiting patrons during the weeks of entertainment. They include Italian clown, Jewish theatre, and characters from his own production at the Assembly Rooms.

11.00 *Newspaper:* What the Papers say: Looking at the headlines and what lies underneath is Julie Welch of the Observer. Ends at 11.45.

11.50 *Open University (Unit 1.10): Economics of the Year:* SWF Award; 1.15 *TV Show:* This year's 75th anniversary of the BBC (r); 1.20 *Two Weeks Performance:* The first 75 performances of the year; 1.25 *Channel 4 News:*

1.30 *LAST WEEK:* *2 Weeks Performance:* The first 75 performances of the year; 1.35 *Channel 4 News:*

1.45 *Channel 4 News:*

1.55 *News:* news; 1.58 *Choice:*

2.00 *News:* news; 2.05 *Channel 4 News:*

2.15 *News:* news; 2.20 *Choice:*

2.30 *News:* news; 2.35 *Channel 4 News:*

2.45 *News:* news; 2.50 *Choice:*

2.55 *News:* news; 2.58 *Channel 4 News:*

3.00 *News:* news; 3.03 *Choice:*

3.15 *News:* news; 3.18 *Channel 4 News:*

3.25 *News:* news; 3.30 *Choice:*

3.45 *News:* news; 3.50 *Channel 4 News:*

3.55 *News:* news; 3.58 *Choice:*

4.00 *News:* news; 4.03 *Channel 4 News:*

4.15 *News:* news; 4.18 *Choice:*

4.30 *News:* news; 4.33 *Channel 4 News:*

4.45 *News:* news; 4.48 *Choice:*

4.55 *News:* news; 4.58 *Channel 4 News:*

4.65 *News:* news; 4.68 *Choice:*

4.75 *News:* news; 4.78 *Channel 4 News:*

4.85 *News:* news; 4.88 *Choice:*

5.00 *News:* news; 5.03 *Channel 4 News:*

5.15 *News:* news; 5.18 *Choice:*

5.30 *News:* news; 5.33 *Channel 4 News:*

5.45 *News:* news; 5.50 *Choice:*

5.50 *News:* news; 5.53 *Channel 4 News:*

5.55 *News:* news; 5.58 *Choice:*

5.60 *News:* news; 5.63 *Channel 4 News:*

5.65 *News:* news; 5.68 *Choice:*

5.70 *News:* news; 5.73 *Channel 4 News:*

5.75 *News:* news; 5.80 *Choice:*

5.80 *News:* news; 5.83 *Channel 4 News:*

5.85 *News:* news; 5.88 *Choice:*

5.90 *News:* news; 5.93 *Channel 4 News:*

5.95 *News:* news; 5.98 *Choice:*

6.00 *News:* news; 6.03 *Channel 4 News:*

6.05 *News:* news; 6.08 *Choice:*

6.10 *News:* news; 6.13 *Channel 4 News:*

6.15 *News:* news; 6.18 *Choice:*

6.20 *News:* news; 6.23 *Channel 4 News:*

6.25 *News:* news; 6.28 *Choice:*

6.30 *News:* news; 6.33 *Channel 4 News:*

6.35 *News:* news; 6.38 *Choice:*

6.40 *News:* news; 6.43 *Channel 4 News:*

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6.85 *News:* news

Doe tells why he wants to stop Gaddafi

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian President who was this week flown by Israeli jet from the obscurity of Monrovia to make diplomatic history in the Holy Land, has announced plans for a political initiative against Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, whom he accused of plotting his assassination.

"Gaddafi is a man who would like to lead the whole continent of Africa, which is impossible to do, but he still uses his natural resources to buy arms, ammunition, and to spread explosives", he said in an interview with *The Times*.

"We will do our best politically to sabotage his operations in the region", he added.

The general said that evidence had been uncovered that the Libyan leader had inspired an assassination attempt against him in 1981, a year after he came to power in a violent coup.

He said that the ringleader, Major-General Thomas Websy, his former second in command had been found with explosives, tried and subjected to "the due process of the law".

Later explained by an aid to mean execution by firing squad.

General Doe: Looking for new glasses.

The bespectacled president, at 33 still one of the youngest heads of state in the world, spoke of the dangers to the rest of Africa if the Libyan regime were to be permitted by France to succeed in partitioning Chad.

He angrily accused Colonel Gaddafi of spending large sums of money to foment unrest in vulnerable states.

Surrounded by subordinates and the opulent upholstery of the Hilton's presidential suite, the former master sergeant gave the impression of enjoying the

privileges of being the first African head of state to visit Jerusalem for 12 years.

Speaking in a jerky English that some Israelis find hard to comprehend, he revealed an endearing touch of frankness not common among Middle East leaders. "Yes", President Doe acknowledged, he had asked to visit a Jerusalem hospital because he wanted a new pair of stronger spectacles.

Asked where his controversial new embassy would be sited, the Liberian leader brushed aside the diplomatic complexities that have bedevilled the question and left only ambassadors from El Salvador and Costa Rica in Jerusalem.

"I consider Jerusalem and Tel Aviv to be the same state", he replied. "So they can tell us where to put our embassy and we will be glad to do so."

Dr Doe (his doctorate was acquired recently from a South Korean university) has been described by Israeli officials as seeing himself as something of an African Sadat, because of his determination to use his visit to Jerusalem as an exercise in international public relations.

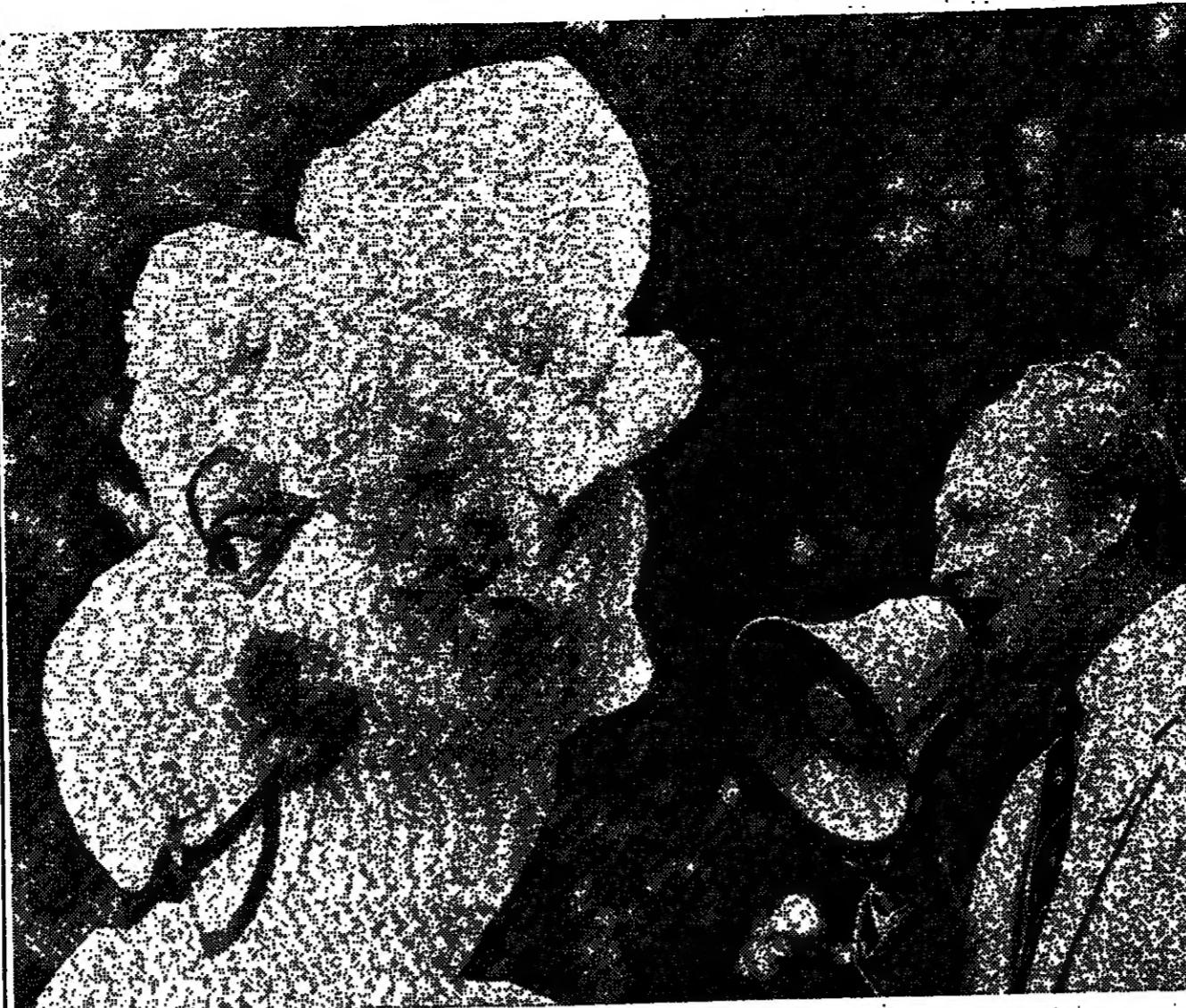
This afternoon he will hold a full press conference.

But despite ignorance of some of the nuances of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Liberian leader has not shied from having his say. On Tuesday night he upset his hosts by speaking at a state banquet of the "God-given right of the Palestinian people, including their right to a state of their own".

He told me yesterday that it was imperative for the Israelis and the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization to sit down for face-to-face talks. "We feel that this issue can be solved by peaceful negotiations rather than on the battlefield", he said.

Despite his youth and undistinguished international reputation, General Doe exuded confidence in the stability of Liberia—which he pledged would have a new constitution and democratic elections in 1985—and a determination to resist Arab threats. "My conscience is clear and the decision about Israel is in the interests of my people", he said. "I have no fear."

He would not disclose details of the assistance he will be given.



Punch and Judy fight cuts in arts

The Government was accused yesterday of being "boneheaded and philistine" for cutting money to the arts, at a demonstration accompanied by a larger-than-life Punch and Judy.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the leading contender for the Labour Party leadership, photographed with Judy, said that it was part of the Conservative "conspiracy" to cut the standard of living for the majority of people.

He was addressing 450 actors and actresses who had rallied at Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, central London, to protest about the recent 1 per cent cut in grants to the Arts Council.

The demonstrators gathered near County Hall and marched to Hyde Park led by famous names including the actress Prunella Scales. The demonstration was organized by the Royal Court Theatre.

(Photograph: Tony Weaver)

Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

By Our Political Correspondent

Continued from page 1

cause most party members and union leaders now regard a leadership victory for Mr Neil Kinnock as a foregone conclusion. More importantly, a significant number of MPs have indicated they would regard a Kinnock-Meacher leadership as the end of the road for the party.

Nevertheless, Mr Meacher stands a strong chance of beating Mr Hattersley for the deputy's job despite his hard-earned record. Certainly, he has avoided the confrontation of the Healey-Benn contest and has injected a conciliatory tone into his campaign.

One of the key assumptions in both *The Sunday Times* and *New Statesman* surveys is the vote of the National Union of Public Employees. That union, with 4 per cent of the electoral college votes, is balloting members with an executive recommendation to support Mr Meacher.

Equality formula, page 4

Mounting terror in Pakistan

Continued from page 1

roads were blocked by protesters outside rural towns. In Daud and Larkana - both scenes of recent violence - councillors elected to the local municipality yesterday all resigned to protest against the continuation of the martial law.

Black-coated lawyers belonging to bar associations around the country managed to put together something approaching a national demonstration yesterday when many of them went on a four-hour strike to protest against the imposition of sentences of flogging administered to demonstrators.

The stoppage was most comprehensive in Sind, where virtually every city and district court was halted. But the most encouraging sign for those hoping to widen the protest movement to the rest of the country came from 500 lawyers in Lahore who downed brief cases.

Malta violence is given as one of the reasons why Palermo now sees fewer visitors. But Etna must be an attraction rather than a disengagement. Excepting or not, it is a great draw, fascinating visually as much as scientifically.

Catania is intent on making a name for itself despite the apparently unfavourable circumstances of the tourist business. It is one of the towns one passes through on the first part of the ascent of this highest of Europe's active volcanoes. It has no hotel and no res-

taurants. It is beset with the familiar problems of the south. Young people cannot find work. Many of them seek jobs in Catania or emigrate.

The population is around 5,000 which is always a difficult figure. The electoral system in local government contests is different for towns with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, and great efforts are made to prevent a fall below that total.

Theoretically, the political situation is strong because the Christian Democrats have an absolute majority. But that does not mean in effect that Signor Enzo Grasso, the Mayor, who is now beginning his third term, has an easy time.

His answer to his town's problems is to apply what might reasonably be described as his volcanic energy to publicize Catania, its attractions, its problems and its intention of avoiding what might look like an inevitable decline.

Like many Sicilian mountain towns, it feels increasingly isolated by the development down on the coast. And this particular coast is a powerful rival. Its counterpart is Taormina, which dominates the most luxurious and best-trodden series of beaches in Sicily and is equal in beauty to any sea coast in the country. The finest hotels are superb.

Yet even down there the tourist season is proving a disappointment. If an inquiry were made into what people outside Sicily read most about this year concerning the island, the answer would be twofold, and in both cases a form of violence: for the western end of the island, the Mafia, and here in the east, the exception of Etna.

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Peter Nichols

Letter from Etna

Town lives up to volcano's example

The rebellious giant buried under Etna has stopped his snorting and nothing more menacing remains for the moment than a thin stream of grey smoke as if Etna, the giant of the legend, was lying back to enjoy a quiet cigarette.

The eruption lasted 129 days. It was dramatic more than anything else, for the efforts made to tame the stream of lava by diverting its flow with explosives. Here in Castiglione di Sicilia on the northern slopes of Etna, the failure to change radically the effects of the eruption is taken as something only to be expected.

Volcanoes are not tameable, especially Etna, which has never shown any propensity to be trifled with, and in this sense Castiglione is seeking to live up to the example of the irrepressible and unfathomable life force which, at irregular intervals bursts out of Etna's crater.

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Each summer he turns one of its most beautiful squares into an open air auditorium and offers recitals by opera singers, pop groups and Sicilian musicians to persuade people to climb that high in the direction of the crater.

The climax is the evening on which Castiglione presents its prizes. A jury selects personalities felt to have distinguished themselves each year in literature, journalism and science. Signor Grasso's insistence has already established Castiglione's awards in a remarkable way for a small town.

The prize for science went to Mr Sheldon Glashow, the American physicist, Nobel

Prize winner and Etna enthusiast. Signor Alberto Bevilacqua, the country's most successful novelist of the moment and a leading film director, took the narrative prize.

The evening is festive and high-spirited, as if participation is general in the Mayor's uphill effort for his town's recognition and development. The journalists award went to use a phrase adopted by the present Prime Minister when speaking of himself, to "Yours Truly".

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Peter Nichols

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

- *London Summer, Late Summer, Autumn and Imperial Days*, by Robert Grant Irving (Vale, £12.95)
- *Medieval Monasteries of Great Britain*, by Lionel Butler and Chris Gwin-Wilson (Michael Joseph, £26.95)
- *Schumacher on Energy*, edited by Geoffrey Kirk (Abacus, £2.95)
- *Scottish Short Stories 1983* (Collins, £2.95 hardback, £2.75 pbk)
- *The Baroque Arrested*, by Mary Sallust (Abacus, £2.95)
- *Women at Work: Alternative Responses to British Crisis*, by Peter Hain (Penguin, £2.50)
- *Women at Work: Alternative Responses to British Crisis*, by Peter Hain (Penguin, £2.50)
- *The Penguin Book of Verse, Social and Documentary Poetry 1950-1976*, edited by David Wright (Penguin, £2.95)
- *The Second Michael Innes Omnibus* (Penguin, £2.95)
- *The Fourth Penguin Book of The Times Crossword* (Penguin, £2.50)
- *Women's Rights in the Workplace*, by Tess Gill and Larry Whitty (Palmer, £2.95)

Photo: Workmen repairing a bridge in Scotland. (PA Wire)

Exhibitions in progress

Photographs of posters and paper ephemera of old Derby, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5 (ends Sept 18).

• *Men and Music*, Royal Scottish Museum, Chamber Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 12).

• *Child's Life in the 1920s and 1930s*, and *Tartans and Plaids*, Royal Castle Museum, 100 St Andrews Drive, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 26).

• *The Thistle of Scotland*, Glasgow Museum and Art Gallery, Kelvin Grove; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 26).

• *A Child's Life in the 1920s and 1930s*, and *Tartans and Plaids*, Royal Castle Museum, Kelvin Grove; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 26).

• *Paintings by Douglas Hill*, and landscapes by Cathleen Bell; Haworth Gallery, Steeple End; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Sept 12).

• *Sovereign: the patchwork of our lives*, Carmarthen Museum, Aberystwyth; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30, closed Wed and Sun (ends Sept 24).

• *Work of Tonbridge Wells and District Embroiderers Guild*, Tonbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Sept 8).

• *The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,217*

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester visits Kings Cliffe Airfield, Peterborough, to unveil a memorial to airmen who died during the Second World War and who were stationed at the airfield, 11.

New exhibitions

Take a Seat: chairs by British furniture makers, Cirencester Workshops, Brewery Court, Cirencester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (ends Sept 24).

Work of Tonbridge Wells and District Embroiderers Guild, Tonbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Sept 8).

Paintings by Douglas Hill, and landscapes by Cathleen Bell; Haworth Gallery, Steeple End; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Sept 12).

Sovereign: the patchwork of our lives, Carmarthen Museum, Aberystwyth; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30, closed Wed and Sun (ends Sept 24).

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,217

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